

Estimadas Familias,

Namaste! In culture class we have been learning about India. Your child has learned about Mahatma Gandhi, Madre Teresa, Taj Mahal, the landscape, sports, yoga, religion and festivals.

**Next week, May 20-23,** we will be making Sooji Halwa and Ginger Beer. Sooji is a popular sweet dish all over India. Ginger is a spice used often and this drink is refreshing. If you would like to join us, please send me an email. Each class meets from 10:50-11:50. Mon: Hollenbeck, Tues: da Silva, Wed: Salton & Thur: Bruin.

## Sooji Halwa

½ cup sooji (semolina flour) ¼ cup ghee (clear butter) regular butter works fine 1/3 cup sugar 1½ cup water Pinch of cardamom powder

Optional: almond slivers, dried fruit (we will not use any of these)

Boil the water with sugar and cardamom powder in a pan over low medium heat. Bring to boil and set aside. Melt the butter in a frying pan on medium heat. Add sooji stirring constantly. This will take about 5-8 minutes. Sooji will be golden brown in color and will have a light sweet aroma. Add syrup (sugar & water mixture) slowly, the syrup will bubble and may splatter. Turn down the heat to medium low and let it cool for about 2-3 minutes. Sooji will absorb the water. Serve hot for best taste

## Ginger Beer

3 lemons, plus rind of one One piece ginger root, about 4oz, size depends on taste 1/2C sugar Club soda or sparkling water

Peel ginger root and chop into about 2" pieces. Add ginger, juice of three lemons, lemon rind and sugar. Using a pestle and mortar, Vitamix or even food processor, blend all ingredients into a pulp. Add either club soda or sparkling water and let it steep for 10 min. Then strain into a pitcher if served right away. Put in bottles with swing tops to help keep carbonation. Below is an easy video to follow. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KzDanfzZfE4

Sinceramente,

Sra. Hillary www.avcultura.weebly.com