

**Title of Reading Selection:** “The Secret Ingredient”

**Concept Development Questions to Access Prior Knowledge:** Please pull down your coversheet so you can see the title. What does it say? We are going to read a story titled “The Secret Ingredient,” which is based on a true story. What does secret ingredient mean? Does your family have any recipes that they won’t share because there is a secret ingredient? Is a secret ingredient a good thing or a bad thing? Why?

**Prediction before Section 1:** Let’s predict. What is the secret ingredient in this story going to be? (Write student predictions on the board.)

**Please Silently Read Section 1.**

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**Prediction Check**

1. Did we accurately predict what the secret ingredient is?

**Comprehension Questions**

1. What is the secret ingredient? (Spit.)
2. Why did the customers send the tea back? (It wasn’t sweet enough.)
3. Where did this happen? (South Carolina.)
4. Why can eating out be a risk-- what do we assume? (The food is fresh, the kitchen is clean, and employees have washed their hands.)

**Prediction before Section 2:** Let’s predict two things. First of all, why did the employee do that? Secondly, how did the customers find out? (Write student predictions on the board.)

**Please Silently Read Section 2.**

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**Prediction Check**

1. Did we accurately predict why the employee did it?
2. Did we accurately predict how the customers found out?

**Comprehension Questions**

1. So, why did he do it? (He was upset that the customers complained.)
2. How did the customers find out? (They saw phlegm.)
3. Would you be upset if a customer said the tea wasn’t sweet enough? Why or why not? (Opinion.)
4. What kind of camera caught him? (A surveillance camera.)
5. What is a “surveillance camera”? (A camera that films what is going on.)

**Prediction before Section 3:** Let’s predict. What do you think is going to happen to him? What will his punishment be? Be specific. (For example, if a student says jail or fine, ask “How long? How much?”) (Write student predictions on the board.)

### **Please Silently Read Section 3.**

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#### **Prediction Check**

1. Did we accurately predict what is going to happen to him-- his punishment?

#### **Comprehension Questions**

1. What happened to him? (He was arrested and charged with malicious tampering of food, which is a felony.)
2. How much was bail? (\$5,000.)
3. How much time could he spend in prison? (20 years.)
4. Do you think the punishment fits the crime? Why or why not? (Opinion.)
5. What do you think should happen to the employee? (Opinion.)
6. Read the last sentence of the section out loud to me. ("There are many other recent examples of fast food joints serving contaminated food and having unsanitary kitchens.")

**Prediction Before Section 4:** Let's predict. Which "fast food joints" do you think this article is going to mention?

(Write student predictions on the board.)

### **Please Silently Read Section 4.**

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#### **Prediction Check**

1. Did we accurately predict the fast food restaurants mentioned?

#### **Comprehension Questions**

1. Which restaurants are listed? (McDonalds, Taco Bell, Wendy's, Burger King, KFC, Pizza Hut.)
2. What were the most common health code violations? Someone read the sentence please. ("The most common reasons were rodent droppings, insects, food borne illnesses, debris and grime on counters and in prep areas, poor employee sanitation, and unusual items found in customers' food.")

**Prediction Before Section 5:** Let's predict. What are some of the "unusual items" that you think have been found in the food?

(Write student predictions on the board.)

### **Please Silently Read Section 5.**

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#### **Prediction Check**

1. Did we accurately predict the unusual items that were found in the food?

#### **Comprehension Questions**

1. Which ones did the article mention that are not on our list? (Answers will vary.)
2. What do you think is the grossest item? (Opinion.)

**Prediction Before Section 6:** Let's predict. What are some things that you can do to ensure that you have a good, clean dining experience?  
(Write student predictions on the board.)

**Please Silently Read Section 6.**

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**Prediction Check**

1. Did we accurately predict the safety tips?

**Comprehension Questions**

1. Please tell me all four safety tips in your own words. (1. Check bathrooms for cleanliness. 2. Check out employees for cleanliness. 3. Wash your own hands. 4. Eat food while it's hot.)
2. Do you agree or disagree with these tips? (Opinion.)
3. Do you think that you should send food back in a restaurant if you don't like it? (Opinion.)
4. Would you be afraid the waiter would do something to it? (Opinion.)