

HERBY CHEESE PUFFS WITH SPINACH

Season: From the garden:	Year round Spinach, silverbeet, herbs
Type:	Spinach, silver beet, herbs
Difficulty:	Easy
Serves:	12 regular or 24 mini puffs
Source:	Marija Vidovich, Kitchen Specialist, Holy Cross School

Equipment

- Chef's knife
- Clean tea towel
- Chopping board
- Box grater
- Large mixing bowl
- Small mixing bowl
- Sieve
- Measuring cups and spoons
- Spatula
- Mixing spoon
- Fork
- Muffin tins
- Pastry brush

How to make it

- 1. Heat the oven to 200°C (or 190°C fan bake).
- 2. Grease muffins tins with butter by using a pastry brush to lightly coat .
- 3. Wash and dry the spinach and herbs and allow to dry on a clean tea towel. Once herbs are dry then finely chop and place in the large mixing bowl.
- 4. Grate the cheese if you are using it from a block or measure out if grated and add to the herbs. Caution – sharp! Box graters can be sharp. Ask an adult to help you with this.
- 5. Sift the flour and baking powder into the large mixing bowl onto the herbs and cheese and top with a grind of black pepper. Stir till combined.
- 6. Crack the egg into a small bowl and lightly beat with a fork. Add the milk. Then pour into the large mixing bowl.
- 7. Using a mixing spoon, gently mix all the ingredients together (do not over mix).
- 8. If using regular size muffin tin fill each hole in the tin with a heaped tablespoonful of the mixture. If using mini muffin tins fill with a heaped teaspoon.

Ingredients

- 1 cup plain flour
- 3 teaspoons baking powder
- Freshly ground black pepper
- 2 cups grated or 100g piece of cheese to grate
- 2 handfuls of spinach/silverbeet and herbs (eg. parsley, basil) to give ¾ cup once chopped
- 1 egg
- 1/2 cup milk
- Soft butter to grease the tins

- 9. Bake for 10-12 minutes until risen and slightly golden. Remove from the oven and allow to cool for 5 minutes. Caution hot! Ask an adult to help you with this.
- 10. Remove from tins and cool on racks. Caution hot! Ask an adult to help you with this.

Notes:

- The key to making a tender puff is to stir the batter gently and not overmix.
- S You can experiment with different greens and herbs to find your favourite combination.

Skills:

- Chop, grate, grease, stir*
 - * Stir: to mix ingredients in a circular pattern with a spoon