This recipe comes from Revolutionary War times, when General George Washington and his soldiers made oatmeal at Valley Forge. Read the recipe to learn more about it and answer the questions that follow.

VALLEY FORGE OATMEAL

Valley Forge Oatmeal was simple to make. Today, by adding some special ingredients, it can be a delicious treat, too.

To make 4 servings, you need:

- 1½ cups of rolled oats
- 3 cups of water
- ½ teaspoon of salt
- 4 pats of butter
- honey
- raisins
- 2 cups of milk

- cinnamon
- a stove (and someone to help you with it)
- a pot
- spoons
- 4 cereal bowls

How to do it:

- 1. Add half a teaspoon of salt to the three cups of water in the pot and bring to a boil.
- 2. Stir in the rolled oats, gradually, so the water continues to boil.
- Reduce heat.
- 4. Add one handful of raisins.
- 5. Let it simmer for 10 to 15 minutes. Stir now and then.
- 6. Pour the mixture into the four cereal bowls and top each with a pat of butter.
- 7. Mix in a teaspoon of honey in each bowl.
- 8. Add a little milk to each bowl.
- 9. Sprinkle some cinnamon on top and enjoy! It's also a good way to keep warm!

"Valley Forge Oatmeal" excerpted from *Things to Make and Do for George Washington's Birthday* by Michael Cooper. Copyright © 1979, by Franklin Watts, Inc.



- 1. What is the *main* purpose of this selection?
 - A to tell a story about Valley Forge
 - B to show how to cook outdoors
 - C to convince people to eat oatmeal
 - D to tell how to do something
- 2. Which things are *most important* in this recipe?
 - A honey and raisins
 - B salt and butter
 - C rolled oats and water
 - D milk and cinnamon
- 3. Why does the recipe include the list of things at the beginning?
 - A to tell how much the recipe will cost
 - B to help a person plan the recipe
 - C to give instructions for doing the recipe
 - D to show what the finished recipe looks like

- 4. In which step should a person making this recipe be *most careful*?
 - A Step 1 mixing and cooking
 - B Step 4 adding raisins
 - C Step 7 adding honey and mixing
 - D Step 8 adding milk
- 5. Which of the following *best* describes Valley Forge Oatmeal?
 - A cool and creamy
 - B crunchy and spicy
 - C warm and sweet
 - D chewy and fruity

End of Set

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Answers to Grade 4 Reading Comprehension Sample Items

Passage Title	Question Number	Correct Answer	Category	Thinking Skill	Objective Number
Valley Forge Oatmeal	1	D	Cognition	Analyzing	2.04
Valley Forge Oatmeal	2	C	Interpretation	Analyzing	2.07
Valley Forge Oatmeal	3	В	Cognition	Analyzing	2.03
Valley Forge Oatmeal	4	A	Connections	Analyzing	2.02
Valley Forge Oatmeal	5	C	Interpretation	Integrating	2.05