



Katherine Sheldon

Senior

Senior- Crafty Food

Hutchinson County

Oh So Sweet Baby Buggy

Ingredients:

1 medium Watermelon

- 1 medium Cantaloupe
- 1 large Orange
- 1 cup seedless Green Grapes
- 1 cup seedless Red Grapes
- 1 1/2 cups fresh Strawberries, cut into quarters
- 1 1/2 cups fresh or canned pineapple, cut into small pieces

Tools/Equipment:

- Long, sharp knife
- Melon baller or ice-cream scoop
- 10 toothpicks
- Black permanent marker
- Clean, new (unused) Pacifier
- Vegetable peeler
- Painter's tape

Directions for Buggy Assembly:

First, place the watermelon on a clean, sturdy work-surface. Cut a thin slice from the bottom of the watermelon, so it will sit flat upon the surface. Cut through the rind, into the white flesh. Be careful not to cut into the red flesh/fruit. Next, use the Painter's tape and marker to mark where to cut out the buggy. Wrap the painter's tape vertically around the watermelon, being sure to center it. When you have wrapped the tape all the way around, cut the tape. Then wrap the tape horizontally around the watermelon, making sure it is centered. When finished, you should be able to look at the side of the watermelon and see a cross (or "t") where the two strips of tape intersect. Then, using the marker, put a large dot on both places where the strips of tape intersect.

Starting at one dot (where the strips of tape intersect), draw a chevron or zig-zag design up and down the horizontal strip of tape, until you reach the other dot (where the strips of tape intersect). STOP! Do not draw any further! Then, starting at the dot, draw the same design across the vertical strip of tape, until you reach the other dot. Now, you will use your long, sharp knife to cut out the buggy shape. You will cut out only a quarter of the Watermelon. As you cut, follow the zig-zag designs on the horizontal and vertical tape strips. Once you finished cutting, you should be able to pull out the top section. Save this piece of the watermelon for a future snack or desert. Be sure to remove the Painter's Tape from the watermelon, before you continue with the rest of the directions.

Now, put the knife aside, and use the melon baller to scoop out the red fruit inside the watermelon. Save the watermelon balls for the fruit salad which will fill the buggy. You should now have a watermelon shell (with a top section missing) that you can fill with fruit salad.

In a large bowl, mix the red and green grapes, the strawberries, the cut pineapple and the watermelon balls together. Next, cut the cantaloupe in half. Use the melon baller to scoop out the fruit from one half. Add these cantaloupe balls to the fruit mixture. Using a large slotted spoon, scoop 3/4 of the fruit salad mixture into the watermelon shell.

For the baby's head, use the knife to remove the rind from the remaining cantaloupe half. Use the vegetable peeler to remove any small pieces of peel or rind stuck on the cantaloupe. Make sure the surface of the cantaloupe is smooth. Place cantaloupe half down on work surface or cutting board, with the rounded, outside part facing up. This will be the baby's face. Then, cut a "V" shape into the lower part of the cantaloupe, and insert the pacifier into "The baby's mouth". You can then add the eyes and nose. For the eyes, break a toothpick in half and poke both pieces next to each other in the top portion of the cantaloupe. Leave a part of each toothpick piece sticking out, then place half a red grape onto each toothpick piece. For the nose, poke half a toothpick into the space between the eyes and pacifier, and then place a small, round piece of watermelon onto the toothpick.

Lift the baby's face into the back of the buggy and angle it so that it appears like a baby's face peeking out. Scoop the rest of the fruit mixture into the buggy and place a serving spoon into the fruit mixture. Finally, cut the orange into large slices. You should have 4 thick slices, plus the end pieces. Place the slices around the bottom of the watermelon for buggy wheels and secure with toothpicks. Place half a red grape in the center of each orange slice for hubcaps (use toothpicks and the same method as the baby's eyes).

Your Oh So Sweet Baby Buggy is complete! Enjoy!