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**The Story of Kwanzaa**  
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Try this recipe for Kwanzaa!

### **BENNE CAKES**

Benne cakes are a food from West Africa. Benne means sesame seeds. The sesame seeds are eaten for good luck. This treat is still eaten in some parts of the American South.

**(Warning: Cookies and baking sheet will get very hot and can burn! Always bake with a grown-up for help and safety!)**

You will need:

- oil to grease cookie sheet
- 1 cup finely packed brown sugar
- 1/4 cup butter or margarine, softened
- 1 egg, beaten
- 1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 teaspoon freshly squeezed lemon juice
- 1/2 cup all-purpose flour
- 1/2 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1 cup toasted sesame seeds

Preheat the oven to 325°. Lightly oil a cookie sheet. Mix together the brown sugar and butter, and beat until they are creamy. Stir in the egg, vanilla extract, and lemon juice. Add flour, baking powder, salt, and sesame seeds. Drop by rounded teaspoons onto the cookie sheet 2 inches apart. Bake for 15 minutes or until the edges are browned. Enjoy!