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- (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or
- (2) fax: (833) 256-1665; or (202) 690-7442; or
- (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.



HELP ME BE HEALTHY



I AM 3 1/2

**I am a
preschooler.**

I LOVE TO LEARN!

My name is _____.

I weigh _____ pounds and _____ ounces.

I am _____ inches tall.

My Hemoglobin is _____.

A special note for me _____

My stomach is still little

- Start with about 3 tablespoons of each food. Let me ask for more.
- I like to make some choices. Let me choose between healthy foods.
- I get hungry between meals. A healthy snack helps me get what I need to grow and learn. Pick foods from the 5 food groups.
- Do not worry if I do not eat a meal or snack. I will eat more on some days than others. Please do not beg me to eat or fix other food for me.
- Too much sugar fills me up, but does not give me what I need to grow healthy. Please give me fruit to eat. It tastes sweet and is good for me, too.
- Praise me with words, not food. Do not use food to reward or punish me. These words are the best reward: "I am proud of you!" "You did a good job!" " Thank you!"



Help me to enjoy vegetables

- I want to eat foods that taste good and are healthy, so I can play and grow!
- You are my teacher. If you eat many kinds of vegetables, I will learn from you.
- I can try some raw vegetables that are not too hard. I can eat broccoli tips dipped in salad dressing.
- If I am hungry between meals, let me eat some vegetables or fruit.
- I can learn to eat vegetable soup or salad with dressing. I may be messy. Please tell me you are proud of me for trying.

Give me water when I ask for a drink.



Make our family meals relaxed

- Please turn off the TV and all our screens while we eat. Let's focus on our family and our food.
- It is okay if I do not eat a food. It takes me many tries to see if I like something. Please be sure to try that food with me again.
- I need to sit down while I eat or drink. Let me sit in my booster seat at the table.
- Give me a small spoon or fork and a small plate and cup. I may still be messy when I eat. I am learning!
- Let's wash our hands together before and after we eat.



Every day offer me:




2-3 servings

Fruits

- 1/2 cup chopped or mashed fruit
- 4 ounces 100% fruit juice

Offer me a vitamin C fruit every day—
oranges, strawberries, or WIC juice.

No more than 4 ounces of juice a day.



3-4 servings

Protein


- 2 tablespoons meat, chicken, turkey, or fish
- 1/2 egg
- 2 tablespoons beans or tofu
- 1/2 tablespoon peanut butter

Beans, meat, chicken, turkey, and fish give
me lots of iron to keep my blood strong.

Vegetables

- 1/2 cup vegetables
- 1/2 cup vegetable or tomato soup
- 4 ounces vegetable or tomato juice

Offer me a dark green or orange
vegetable every day.




3 servings

Dairy


- 4 ounces nonfat or 1% milk
- 1/2 cup lowfat yogurt
- 1 slice lowfat cheese

No more than 16 ounces of milk a day.
WIC gives me lowfat milk. It is what I need.



4 servings

If I drink
breastmilk,
it counts in
my daily
servings.



4-5 servings

Grains

- 1 slice bread or tortilla
- 1/2 cup cooked cereal, rice, or noodles
- 1 cup cold cereal
- 5 or 7 small crackers

Half the grains I eat should be whole grains.



**Fats, Oils
& Sweets**
Only a little bit



MyPlate.gov

Let's cook

Frozen Banana Treats

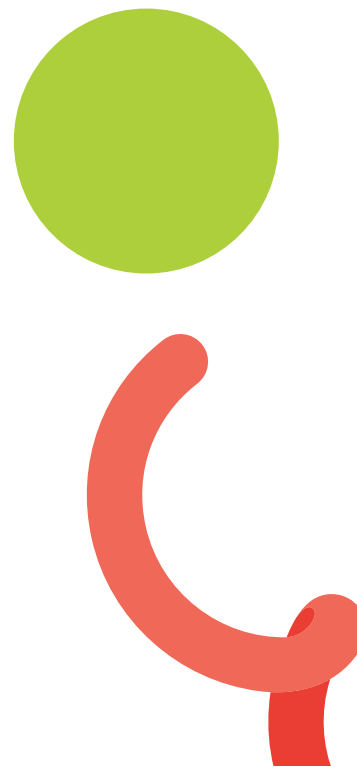
1 medium sized banana, peeled
1/4 cup lowfat yogurt, vanilla or flavored
1/4 cup cold cereal such as corn flakes, crushed

Cut banana into 1/2 inch slices. Dip slices in your choice of yogurt. Roll banana pieces in crushed cereal. Place the slices on a cookie sheet then in the freezer. When frozen, store the pieces in a freezer bag. You can eat the banana slices even if they are not frozen. Makes 2 to 3 servings. 1 serving is 4 to 6 pieces.



I can help in the kitchen

- I want to help fix a meal or snack. Can we make fun food like a happy face sandwich? Let's count the raisins in the smile.
- I can spread a thin smear of butter or peanut butter on bread.
- I will not touch the stove if you tell me it is hot.
- I like to help clear the table when we finish eating.
- Let's wipe off the table when we are done.



Look what I can do

- I can learn to say "Please" and "Thank you."
- I can pour cereal into a bowl and peel a banana.
- I can put on some clothes by myself. I am getting better at dressing myself.
- I talk well enough for people outside our family to understand me.



Playing with me helps me grow smarter, stronger, healthier and happier!

Let's play

- Let's jump in and out of a hula hoop.
- Let's pretend I can hop like a frog or gallop like a horse.
- I am ready for a tricycle now.
- Can we make an obstacle course that I can go over, under, around, and through?
- Let's walk to the playground with our friends and swing on the swings.

Keep me safe and healthy

- I like to open doors and drawers to see what is inside. Let me learn, but keep me safe.
- Check to see if I need a doctor's visit and a lead test.
- Keep me away from smoke, matches, lighters, and vaping tools. I can be poisoned by swallowing, breathing, or absorbing e-cigarette liquid through my skin or eyes.
- If there is marijuana in the house, especially edibles, please store it where I cannot get it. It can make me dizzy and fall down, sleep so I cannot wake up, and even stop breathing. Take me to the Emergency Room if this happens.
- If you own a gun, please keep it locked in a safe place.
- I need a nap every day. Could you read me my favorite story?
- Buckle me into a child safety seat before I ride in a car.

Help me keep my smile bright

- Take me to the dentist twice a year.
- Let me start brushing my teeth each day. Then you brush them too, for hard to reach spots.
- Get me a small toothbrush with soft bristles.
- I need just a thin smear of fluoride toothpaste. Remind me to spit out the toothpaste.
- Please floss my teeth once a day to clean between them.
- Sugary drinks can hurt my teeth. Let me drink water instead of punch, tea, or soda.