## Alberta Health Services - Healthy Eating and Active Living For Your 1 to 4 Year Old

## Food Guide Serving Sizes for 1 to 4 Years

Young children can decide how much to eat. Parents and caregivers should plan what foods are offered and be role models of healthy eating.

| Number of Servings Each Day |  |  | Food Group |  | One Food Guide Serving Looks Like |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  <br> Boys <br> $1-2$ years* |  <br> Boys <br> $2-3$ years* | Girls \& Boys $4-5$ years |  | Wh |  |  |
| up to 4 servings | 4 servings | 5 servings | Vegetables and Fruit <br> - Eat at least one dark green \& one orange vegetable per day. <br> - Fresh, frozen or canned are all good choices. <br> - Choose vegetables \& fruit prepared with little or no added fat, sugar or salt. <br> - Serve no more than 125 ml ( $1 / 2$ cup) of full strength juice a day. | Cooked vegetables 125 mL ( $1 / 2$ cup) $=1$ hockey puck | Fresh or soft cooked vegetable slices $125 \mathrm{~mL}(1 / 2$ cup $)=$ 1 hockey puck | Leafy salad vegetables 250 mL ( 1 cup) $=1$ baseball |
|  |  |  |  | 1 medium fresh fruit = 1 tennis ball | Diced fresh, frozen or canned fruit $125 \mathrm{~mL}(1 / 2$ cup $)=1$ hockey puck | $100 \%$ unsweetened juice $125 \mathrm{~mL}(1 / 2$ cup $)=1$ hockey puck |
| up to 3 servings | 3 servings | 4 servings | Grain Products <br> - choose whole grains at least half of the time. <br> - choose grains that are lower in fat, sugar or salt. | Roll, dinner, whole wheat $(28 \mathrm{~g})=$ 1 tennis ball | Rice or pasta 125 mL ( $1 / 2$ cup) $=1$ hockey puck | Bannock ( $2.5^{\prime \prime} \times 2.5^{\prime \prime} \times 0.75^{\prime \prime}$ ) $(6 \mathrm{~cm} \times 6 \mathrm{~cm} \times 2 \mathrm{~cm})=$ 1 hockey puck |
|  |  |  |  | Roll, hamburger, mixed grain = 1 puck | Hot cereal $175 \mathrm{~mL}(3 / 4$ cup $)=$ 1 tennis ball | Cereal (corn bran) 250 mL ( 1 cup) $=1$ baseball - - - (233+33331" |
| $\begin{gathered} 2 \\ \text { servings } \end{gathered}$ | $2$ <br> servings | $2$ <br> servings | Milk and Alternatives <br> - Provide 2 servings of skim, $1 \%$ or $2 \%$ milk (or fortified soy beverage) every day to help meet vitamin D needs. <br> - Children under 2 years of age should be served whole/homogenized ( $3.25 \%$ MF) milk | Milk or fortified soy beverage $250 \mathrm{~mL}(1$ cup $)=1$ baseball | Cheese $50 \mathrm{~g}(11 / 2 \mathrm{oz})=$ 2 erasers | Yogurt $175 \mathrm{~g}(3 / 4$ cup $)=$ 1 tennis ball |

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## Alberta HealthServices - Healthy Eating and Active Living For Your 5 to 11 Year Old

## Food Guide Serving Sizes for 5 to 11 Years

As children grow and become more active, the quantity of food they eat will increase. Offer a variety of nutritious foods from all food groups and encourage your child to eat until comfortably full. Parents and caregivers should be role models of healthy eating. Eating Well with Canada's Food Guide recommends serving sizes and amounts for ages 2 to $51+$.

| Number of Servings Each Day |  | Food Group | What © | eFood Guide Serving Looks Like Each |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { Cinls } 8 \text { Boys } \\ & 5 \text { 5-8 ycars } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Girls \& Boys } \\ & \text { g- } 11 / \mathrm{chars} \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  |  |
| $\begin{gathered} 5 \\ \text { servings } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 6 \\ \text { servings } \end{gathered}$ | Vegetables and Frult <br> - Eat at least one dark green \& one orange vegetable per day. <br> - Fresh, frozen or canned are all good choices. <br> - Choose vegetables \& fruit prepared with little or no added fat, sugar or salt. <br> - Choose vegetables \& fruit more often than juice. <br> - Limit juice to one food guide serving a day $125 \mathrm{mLL} 11 / 2$ cup. | Cooked vegetables 125 mL ( $1 / 2$ cup) = 1 hockey puck | Fresh or soft cooked vegetable slices $125 \mathrm{~mL}(1 / 2$ cup $)=$ 1 hockey puck | Leafy salad vegetables 250 mL $(1$ cup $)=1$ baseball |
|  |  |  | 1 medium fresh fruit $=1$ tennis ball | Diced fresh, frozen or canned fruit $125 \mathrm{~mL}(1 / 2$ cup $)=1$ hockey puck | 100\% unsweetened juice $125 \mathrm{~mL}(1 / 2$ cup $)=1$ hockey puck |
| $\begin{gathered} 4 \\ \text { servings } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 6 \\ \text { servings } \end{gathered}$ | Grain Prowth <br> - Choose whole grains at least half of the time. <br> - Choose grains that are lower in fat, sugar or salt. | Roll, dinner, whole wheat $(28 \mathrm{~g})=$ 1 tennis ball | Rice or pasta $125 \mathrm{~mL}(1 / 2$ cup) $=1$ hockey puck | Bannock ( $2.5^{\prime \prime} \times 2.5^{\prime \prime} \times 0.75^{\prime \prime}$ ) $(6 \mathrm{~cm} \times 6 \mathrm{~cm} \times 2 \mathrm{~cm})=1$ hockey puck |
|  |  |  | Roll, hamburger, mixed grain $=$ 1 puck | Hot cereal $175 \mathrm{~mL}(3 / 4$ cup $)=$ 1 tennis ball | Cereal (corn bran) 250 mL ( 1 cup) $=1$ baseball |
| $\begin{gathered} 2 \\ \text { servings } \end{gathered}$ | 3 to 4 servings | Milk and Alternatives <br> - Depending on age, 2 to 4 servings of milk or fortified soy beverage help meet vitamin D requirements. <br> - Select lower-fat milk alternatives. | Milk or fortified soy beverage $250 \mathrm{~mL}(1$ cup $)=1$ baseball | Cheese $50 \mathrm{~g}(11 / 2 \mathrm{oz})=$ 2 erasers | Yogurt $175 \mathrm{~g}(3 / 4$ cup $)=1$ tennis ball |



| Cooked fish, poultry, lean meat, wild |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| meat $75 \mathrm{~g}(2.5 \mathrm{oz})=1$ hockey puck |$\quad 2$ eggs $\quad$| Cooked legumes such as beans or |
| :---: |
| lentils $175 \mathrm{~mL}(3 / 4 \mathrm{cup})=1$ tennis ball |



Meats and Alternatives

- Have meat alternatives such as beans, lentils and tofu more often.
- Eat at least 2 servings of fish per week.
- Choose lean meat and alternatives prepared with little or no added fat or salt.

| 1 serving | 1 to 2 servings | Meats and Alternatives |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | - Have meat alternatives such as beans, lentils and tofu more often. |
|  |  | - Eat at least 2 servings of fish per week. |
|  |  | - Choose lean meat and alternatives prepared with little or no added fat or salt. |


| What About Oils \& Fats? <br> Offer $\mathbf{3 0 - 4 5 \mathrm { mL }}$ (2 to 3 Tbsp) unsaturated fat each day. This includes oil used for cooking, salad dressings, margarine \& mayonnaise. | Oils and Fats <br> - Limit butter, hard margarine, lard and shortening. |
| :---: | :---: |
| Quench Thirst | W Water |

What about other foods \& beverages high in calories, fat, sugar or salt (sodium)? Limit foods and beverages such as cakes and pastries, chocolate and candies, cookies and granola bars, doughnuts and muffins, ice cream and frozen desserts, french fries, potato chips, nachos and other salty snacks, fruit flavoured drinks, soft drinks, and sweetened hot or cold drinks. Caffeinated beverages and sport or energy drinks should not be given to young children.

How often should I provide food for my child?
Offer small nutritious meals and snacks throughout the day since children have small stomachs and need to eat often. Serve 3 meals and $2-3$ snacks throughout the day. Active children need to refuel often.


Should I restrict how much fat 1 give my child?
No. Offer a variety of nutritious foods which are naturally high in fat such as nuts, avocados and fatty fish.

Why are family meals so important?
Eating together as a family has been shown to improve healthy food choices, lifestyle habits and overall health in young children and preteens.

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Services


[^0]:    * Eating Well with Canada's Food Guide recommends serving sizes and amounts for ages 2 to $51+$. For ages 1 to 3, servings can be divided into smaller amounts and served throughout the day. For example, one half of a vegetable or fruit serving may be served at two different snacks to add up to one full vegetable or fruit serving.

