

Offer fruits and vegetables five times on most days.

The fiber, vitamins, and minerals in fruits and vegetables are important for your child's growth, development, and immune system.

- Eat fruits and vegetables yourself.
- Make fruits and vegetables available at every meal.
- Try, try, and try again. It takes up to 20 exposures to a new food before children decide they like or don't like it.
- Be patient and persistent. Pressure usually backfires.

Limit TV and computer time (not related to school) to two hours or less a day.

The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends:

- 2 hours or less of screen time a day (includes television, computer, laptop, tablet, smartphones, and hand-held gaming devices).
- Keep TV sets, computers, tablets, etc., out of bedrooms.

Get one hour or more of physical activity every day.

Move around! Walk the dog, ride bikes, take the stairs, visit a playground, and do other activities you and your family enjoys.

Limit sugarsweetened drinks. Drink more water and avoid sugar-sweetened drinks.



Eat well, together

Sharing mealtime responsibility

You decide what to serve, and when and where to eat:

- Tune in to each other. Eat meals and snacks seated together as a family. Keep the TV off.
- Set up a regular snack and meal schedule: 3 meals and 2-3 snacks per day. Offer only water in between meal and snack times.
- Offer a mix of foods at meals and snacks. Include new foods with familiar ones.
- Keep trying! Children may need up to 20 exposures to a new food before they decide whether or not they like it.

Kids decide whether and how much to eat:

- Avoid comments like "clean your plate" or "one more bite." This allows children to tune into their own hunger and fullness signals.
- Try to be a role model by letting your children see you eating the foods that you want them to eat.
- Include "sometimes foods," like chips, fries, soda, and desserts. Offer dessert with the meal or have cookies and milk for a snack occasionally. Let your child decide whether and how much to eat of these foods. This allows your child to learn moderation and to be relaxed about all types of foods.

