## HEALTHY TIP for NOVEMBER 2013

How Big is a Portion Size?

We get asked lots of questions about portion sizing for kids. We know parents sometimes worry that their children are not getting enough to eat. So we wanted to make up a chart that compared serving sizes as set out in the Canada Food Guide to the size of everyday object we are all familiar with. WOW were we surprised by what we saw! True portions are pretty small.

| Food Choice | Food Group | $\begin{gathered} \text { Servings per } \\ \text { day } \\ 4-8 \text { yrs } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Servings } \\ \text { per day } \\ 9-13 \text { yrs } \end{gathered}$ | What's in 1 serving? | What does 1 serving look like? |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Cooked Pasta, Rice and Couscous | Grains | 4 | 6 | 1 serving = $1 / 2$ cup | fills a 100 ml foil top yogurt cups |
| Bagels, Bread, Buns, Pita |  |  |  | 1 serving = $1 / 2$ bagel or 1 slice of bread | Size of a hockey puck |
| Cheese | Dairy and Alternatives | 2 | 3-4 | 1 serving = 50 gm | Size of 2 AA batteries |
| Yogurt |  |  |  | 1 serving $=175 \mathrm{ml}$ |  |
| Meat, Fish and Poultry | Meat and <br> Alternatives | 1 | 1-2 | 1 serving $=75 \mathrm{gm}$ |  |
| Peanut Butter <br> [at home only] |  |  |  | 1 serving $=2$ Tbsp | Size of a ping pong ball |
| Fruits, Veggies, Juices, Fresh and Cooked | Fruit and Veggies | 5 | 6 | 1 serving $=1$ medium whole or $1 / 2$ cup other | Few Canadians meet their daily requirement |

Reference: http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/fn-an/food-guide-aliment/index-eng.php from your Lunch Lady

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