



Sample 12 Week Menu Plan for		
Counselor:	Program Name:	Fall Session: 12 – 1.5 hours classes
Program Description:		

Goal: Participants will learn about basic cooking and safe food handling skills, and how to prepare healthy eating recipes that include vegetables and/or fruit.

Objective: By the end of the 12 week program, participating youth will have:

- Practiced safe -handling and basic kitchen safety
- Have learned new food skills
- Prepared healthy recipes
- Learned different ways to include vegetables and fruit in meals and snacks
- Have an understanding of healthy food choices

Resources and Background Information for Leader:

- Canada's Food Guide Educators Guide
- Nutrition Matters Facts sheet:
 - o Help Children and Youth Feel Good About Themselves
 - o Packing Health Lunches and Snacks
 - o Blast off with Breakfast
- Food Safety brochure
- Recipe package





12 Week Menu Plan

Content	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6
	Topic – Blast off with	Topic – Eggcellent Eggs	Topic – Daring Dips	Topic – Brilliant baked	Topic –Tasty Tortillas	Topic – Swell sides
	Breakfast			goods		
Teaching points	Teaching points	Teaching points	Teaching points	Teaching points	Teaching points	Teaching points
and skills to share and model	 Eat breakfast every day Include 3 out of 4 food groups from Canada's Food Guide Skills Washing hands Washing dishes Washing vegetables and fruit Blender 	 Excellent source of protein – reasonably priced Eggs are versatile - can be breakfast, lunch or dinner Skills Measuring Using whisk Grater Using a skillet Knife skills – dicing broccoli, peppers 	 Great snack full of protein Include vegetable and fruit with every snack CFG – 2 out of 4 food groups Skills Draining and rinsing canned beans Measuring Blender Knife skills – chopping fresh herbs, dicing garlic 	 Can control ingredients to ensure healthy version e.g., whole wheat flour, addition of fruit, healthy fats Skills Measuring dry and liquid ingredients Grating carrots/zucchini Oven to bake 	 Quick, easy and healthy lunch or dinner Include vegetable topping Use whole grain base Skills Grating Knife skills – dicing Oven or toaster oven 	 Always include vegetables in your side dishes Use low fat cooking methods to prepare sides e.g., baking, stir frying, steaming Skills Knife skills – chopping, slicing, dicing etc. Baking
Hands-on activity	Berry Wake-Up	Broccoli and Cheese	Bean Dip with Pita	Carrot cookies	Pizzadilla	Cucumber and Tomato
What two recipes	Smoothie	Frittata	Wedges and Raw	2. Yummy in the Tummy	Easy Fajitas	Feta Salad
do you want the	2. Berry Crumble	2. Breakfast Burrito	Veggies	Banana muffins		Veggie Fries
kids to make?	Oatmeal		2. Feta cheese dip		Activity - Mystery	
		Activity – Find the right	Activity – Kitchen	Activity – Guess the spice	Vegetable	Activity – Mystery Fruit
	Activity – Vegetable and	cooking term	Equipment Scavenger			
	fruit tracker		Hunt			
Follow-Up/Link to	Encourage participants to try recipes at home					
Next week	Have participants review recipes for the following week and make a grocery list					





Content	Week 7 Topic – Appealing Appetizers	Week 8 Topic – Super Soups	Week 9 Topic – Lovely legumes	Week 10 Topic - Pleasing Pastas	Week 11 Topic – Delicious Desserts	Week 12 Topic – The Ultimate Dinner Party!
Teaching points and skills to share and model	Teaching points Always include vegetables or fruit for at least one appetizer Use local veg (e.g., tomatoes) and fruit when possible for fresh taste Skills Knife skills – dicing Cutting an avocado Broiling	Teaching points Homemade soups can be lower in sodium and fat then commercial brands Soups can be made with leftover ingredients Skills Knife skills — chopping Chopping garlic Using a blender or immersion blender	 Legumes include chickpeas, lentils, black beans, kidney beans etc. Legumes are very high in protein, fibre and low in fat. Skills Knife skills – dicing Cutting a mango Draining and rinsing Sautéing and simmering 	Teaching points Choose whole grain varieties when possible Pastas and noodles are a basic staple in many homes Skills Knife skills – dicing Boiling pasta/veg Sautéing	 Teaching points Aim to include fruit with your dessert Fresh, frozen or canned can be used – all are similar with respect to nutrients Skills Knife skills – slicing Measuring dry and liquid ingredients Oven to bake 	 Teaching points Include a variety of food from CFG including vegetables and fruit Skills Knife skills Baking Menu planning
Hands-on activity What two recipes will the kids make?	 Bruschetta Guacamole Activity: Vegetable and Fruit tracker 	Minestrone Soup Carrot-Pear Soup Activity: Guess who I am	 Bean and Corn Salad Easy Chickpea Curry Activity: Mystery vegetable 	 One pot veggie pasta Rice Vermicelli with Greens Activity: Mystery Fruit 	 Baked apple Fantastic Fruit crisp Activity – Have participants plan dinner menu for last week. 	Prepare: complete meal that includes appetizer, entrée and dessert Invite one parent to attend
Follow-Up/Link to Next week	Encourage participants to Have participants review		eek and make a grocery list			

Leader Reflection: I would like to add/change/remove:

