THE PLATE METHOD



VEGETABLES

The more vegetables-and the greater the variety-the better.

2 FRUITSEat plenty of fruits of all colors.

3 HEALTHY PROTEIN

Choose fish, poultry, beans and nuts. Limit red meat and cheese.

4 WHOLE GRAINS

Eat a variety of whole grains. Limit refined grains.

5 DAIRY

Choose skim or 1% milk and limit to 1-2 servings per day.

Use as a guide for creating healthy, balanced meals, whether served on a plate or packed in a lunch box.

Remember, ½ plate of vegetables and fruit, ¼ grains and ¼ protein.

The total number of calories a person needs each day varies depending on a person's age, sex, height, weight and level of physical activity. Estimates range from 1,600 to 2,400 calories per day for adult women and 2,000 to 3,000 calories per day for adult men.



HERE ARE SOME SEASONAL SUGGESTIONS FOR INGREDIENTS THAT WORK WELL WITH THE PLATE METHOD

SPRING	Apples Apricots Asparagus Avocados Bananas Broccoli Cabbage Carrots Celery	Collard Greens Garlic Herbs Kale Kiwifruit Lemons Lettuce Limes Mushrooms	Onions Peas Pineapples Radishes Rhubarb Spinach Strawberries Swiss Chard Turnips
SUMMER	Apples Apricots Avocados Bananas Beets Bell Peppers Blackberries Blueberries Cantaloupe Carrots Celery	Cherries Corn Cucumbers Eggplant Garlic Green Beans Herbs Honeydew Melon Lemons Lima Beans Limes	Mangos Okra Peaches Plums Raspberries Strawberries Summer Squash Tomatillos Tomatoes Watermelon Zucchini
FALL	Apples Bananas Beets Bell Peppers Broccoli Brussels Sprouts Cabbage Carrots Cauliflower Celery Collard Greens Cranberries Garlic	Ginger Grapes Green Beans Herbs Kale Kiwifruit Lemons Lettuce Limes Mangos Mushrooms Onions Parsnips	Pears Peas Pineapples Potatoes Potmpkin Radishes Raspberries Rutabagas Spinach Sweet Potatoes & Yams Swiss Chard Turnips Winter Squash
WINTER	Apples Avocados Bananas Beets Brussels Sprouts Cabbage Carrots Celery Collard Greens Grapefruit	Herbs Kale Kiwifruit Leeks Lemons Limes Onions Oranges Parsnips Pears	Pineapples Potatoes Pumpkin Rutabagas Sweet Potatoes & Yams Swiss Chard Turnips Winter Squash

