# **Snack Time: Just Choose Two!**

Choose from any two food groups (or more!) below for a balanced snack. Aim for a veggie or fruit to be one of the two food groups.



Baby carrots or carrot sticks

Celery sticks

Sliced peppers or cucumbers

Green beans or snap peas

Sliced cherry or grape tomatoes

Avocado

Cooked sweet potato wedges or slices

Tomato salsa

# + Fruits

Sliced apples, oranges, melon, banana, grapes, or other fresh fruit

Handful of cranberries, raisins, or other dried fruit (1/4 cup)

Fresh or frozen berries (thawed)

Canned mandarin oranges, pineapple, or peaches

100% fruit juice Applesauce

# + Protein

Handful of peanuts, almonds, walnuts, or other nuts

2 Tbsp. peanut butter or sunflower butter Handful of pumpkin seeds, sunflower seeds, or other seeds

1/2 cup fresh, frozen (thawed) or dried edamame

One hard-boiled egg 1/4 cup hummus or bean dip

# + Dairy

One low-fat cheese stick, 1 ounce cubes, shredded or sliced cheese

> 4-6 ounces of low-fat yogurt Small glass of milk

Low-fat cottage

## Grain

+

Handful of whole grain crackers

1/2 cup of whole grain cereal or granola

2 cups of popcorn

One whole grain pita or slice of toast

Handful of homemade tortillas chips (see recipe below)

# Homemade Tortillas Chips



To make homemade tortilla chips, cut corn tortillas into wedges, coat with cooking spray, and bake at 375°F for 8-10 minutes. Add a sprinkle of cheese before baking for extra flavor.

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## Tips:

**Safety alert!** Make sure snacks are sliced and diced in ways that prevent choking. Cut round foods like cherry tomatoes and grapes into quarters, slice hard-to-chew foods like bagels and tough meats into small pieces, spread sticky food like peanut butter in thin layers, and cook or cut hard and crispy foods like baby carrots and pretzels into smaller pieces. Stay with children while they are eating.

### **Try These Snack Combos**

#### **Banana Sundaes:**

Banana, sliced lengthwise + low-fat yogurt + chopped peanuts + sliced strawberries + granola

#### **Nacho Nibbles:**

Homemade tortilla chips + cherry tomatoes and green peppers + black beans + salsa + shredded cheddar cheese

### **Pepper Dippers:**

Mini bell peppers filled with hummus + whole grain crackers

### **Snacking Skewers:**

(On a skewer or chopstick) sliced cucumber + cubed cheese + grapes + hard-boiled egg

#### **Pretzel Butterfly:**

Celery + cream cheese + pretzels (for the wings!) + raisins





**Choosy eaters?** Store snacks in their own drawer or bin in the fridge or pantry. Give kids the power to choose what they want from the special snack supply!

**Crunched for time?** Pre-pack snacks for the week in small baggies or reusable containers when you have more time. Grab and go when you head out the door!

### Looking to save money?

Buy fruits and vegetables in whole forms and do the prep work yourself! Choose frozen and canned fruits and vegetables when your favorites are not in season.

### Making this a snack-on-the-go?

Choose handheld foods like veggie sticks, fruit slices, and cheese sticks, or dry snacks like nuts, whole grain crackers and cereal. Make sure any dips or messy snacks are in a sealed container!

Want to meal prep or "cook once eat twice?" Make big batches of snack recipes like granola, hummus, or tortilla chips to have on hand as snacks throughout the week.

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