

Eat Healthy Be Active

Keeping Children
Healthy at Home
and School

www.eathealthybeactive.net

Use this activity to help
your child learn

FAMILY FUN

Self Serving

What You Need:

- Meal
- Bowls
- Child-sized serving spoons



What To Do:

- Allow your child to serve him or herself at your next meal
- Encourage your child to take small amounts to start
- Help your child learn how to choose appropriate portions
- A portion should be about the size of his or her hand
- Explain to your child how to choose the right foods to put on the plate
- Talk about MyPlate
 - 1/4 of the plate should be protein
 - 1/4 of the plate should be grains
 - 1/2 of the plate should be fruits and vegetables



STOP EATING WHEN YOU'RE FULL

Promote healthy eating habits by encouraging your family to stop eating when they are full

Tips for Serving Smaller Portions

In order to build healthy eating habits, it is important to limit portion sizes to be realistic for what our bodies need. Smaller portion sizes can also help make it easier to stop eating when full without wasting uneaten food.

Here are some tips to help you and your family serve more appropriate portions:

Divide Plates into Food Groups

Encourage your family to use the MyPlate method of dividing plates. Use one top section for protein, the other for grains, and the bottom half for fruits and vegetables. The sections should not

overlap or be piled high.

Serve Food on Smaller Plates

This gives the appearance of a larger portion while keeping the portion size in check.

Stop When Full

Allow your child to serve him or herself, and decide when to stop eating. Do not expect your child to eat everything on the plate.

*The Nemours Foundation. (2012). KidsHealth: Keeping Portions Under Control. Retrieved from <http://kidshealth.org/parent/portions.html>