



5 or more servings of fruits and vegetables

Fruits and vegetables are important additions to a healthy lifestyle! They provide a lot of nutrients, water, fiber, and phytochemicals that keep your body healthy and help prevent cancer, heart disease, and other diseases. Plus, they're a tasty way to fill up without adding a lot of calories to your diet – so dig in!

- Try to fill half your plate with fruits and vegetables at each meal, and consider getting an extra piece of fruit that you can take with you for a snack later in the day.
- For flavorful vegetables without a lot of added fat, look for offerings that are raw, steamed, baked, or roasted. Ask for sauces or dressings on the side and use them sparingly.
- Vary your vegetables and fruits - eating a mix of colors will ensure that you consume a variety of healthy antioxidants!

2 or fewer hours of recreational screen time⁺

⁺review guidelines on parenting strategies to ensure quality screen time (AAP, 2015)

Screen time is free time spent in front of screens – like televisions, video games, and the internet. It is possible to get enough physical activity and still engage in an unhealthy amount of screen time – so find other fun ways to spend your free time with friends and family!

- Turn off televisions and put away cell phones during meals and enjoy spending time with friends or family.
- Work with your family or friends to identify a variety of enjoyable activities that do not involve screens. Encourage these activities during leisure time and serve as a role model.
- Make televisions, video games, and the internet less convenient to use during free time so that healthier choices are easier to make.

1 or more hours of physical activity

Moving your body is a great way to burn calories, improve your mood, boost your energy, prevent cancer and cardiovascular diseases, and help you sleep better at night – plus, it can be a lot of fun! Look for activities you can enjoy with your family or friends so everyone can reap the benefits and help keep one another on track!

- Use activities instead of food as incentives or to socialize – a trip to the park, sledding hill, laser tag arena, skating rink, batting cage, or community pool can be a great alternative to the ice cream shop to chat with friends or celebrate your child's accomplishments.
- Walk or bike with your family or friends to get where you're going.
- Set up activity dates with like-minded friends or sign up for a charity walk – if you're accountable to someone else you may be more likely to stay active.

0 sweetened beverages

It is important to drink fluids to stay healthy, but sweetened beverages add extra sugar and calories to the diet. Watch out for drinks with the following ingredients: sugar, honey, sweetener, syrup (e.g., corn syrup, brown rice syrup), and/or ingredients ending in "ose" (e.g., glucose, dextrose).

- Make water the norm for quenching thirst – drink water when you are thirsty and offer water to thirsty children.
- Nonfat and 1% milk and 100% vegetable juices contain beneficial nutrients and calories; they are healthy foods that promote a nutritious diet; they are not beverages to drink when thirsty.
- Consider limiting your consumption of artificially sweetened beverages, like diet sodas.

Contact 5210 at 5210@psu.edu or www.5210.psu.edu for help identifying programs and resources targeting nutrition, physical activity, and screen time!

References

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