

Portion size guide for children under 5



Food	Hand Portion	Guide for 1-2 years	Guide for 3-4 years
Fruit and vegetables 5 a day	Cupped hand	- ¼ apple - ½ clementine - ½-½ small to medium banana - 4-5 raw veg sticks - 1 tbsp cooked veg	 ½ apple 1 clementine ½- 1 small to medium banana 5-6 raw veg sticks 2 tbsp cooked veg
Potatoes, bread, rice, pasta, and other starchy foods 3 main meals 1-2 snacks	Clenched fist	 ½ slice of bread/medium chapatti 1 small potato 2-3 tbsp of rice/pasta 3-4 tbsp of cereal 	- 1 slice of bread/medium chapatti- 2 small potatoes- 3-4 tbsp of rice/pasta- 4-5 tbsp of cereal
Beans, pulses, fish, eggs, meat and other proteins 2-3 a day	Open palm	- 1-2 tbsp beans, pulses, dahl - ½ -1 tbsp fish - ½ slice of meat (1 tbsp chopped) - ½ egg	- 2-3 tbsp beans, pulses, dahl - 1-1½ tbsp fish - 1 slice of meat (2 tbsp chopped) - 1 egg
Dairy and alternatives 3 a day	Two thumbs	1 cup (100ml)1-2 sticks hard cheese (1 tbsp grated)1 tbsp of plain unsweetened yoghurt	- 1 cup (150ml)- 2 sticks hard cheese (2 tbsp grated)- 2 tbsp of plain unsweetenedyoghurt

	Food	Portion	Guide for 1-2 years	Guide for 3-4 years
	Oils and spreads		Fats are a good source of energy and fat soluble vitamins and a low fat diet is not recommended for young children. Healthier fats such as olive, rapeseed and sunflower oils, and spreads made from these vegetable oils, can be used.	
	Sometimes foods (pastry, cakes, biscuits, sweets, crisps, chocolate)	Occasional and in small amounts	 - 1 sml piece of cake (to fit into a child's cupped hand) - ½ -1 plain biscuit - Crisps (to fit into a child's cupped hand. Approx 1/3 small packet) - Chocolate (to cover a child's palm. Approx. 1-2 squares) 	 - 1 sml piece of cake (to fit into a child's cupped hand) - ½ -1 plain biscuit - Crisps (to fit into a child's cupped hand. Approx 1/3 small packet) - Chocolate (to cover a child's palm. Approx.2-3 squares)
	Healthy snacks		Keep portions small to avoid putting your child off their next meal. Try: - Starchy foods such as breadsticks, bread, pitta, chapatti, low salt crackers, crumpet and oatcakes - Fruits and vegetables at some snacks - Protein rich foods such as cheese, beans, cold meat, quartered eggs, hummus occasionally	
	Drinks	6-8 cups a day	Aim to include only water and milks as these are kind to teeth. - Milk can be offered between meals and counted as part of the dairy foods but be aware that this can put some children, with small appetites, off their meals - Fruit juice is best avoided, even when diluted, as it contains a lot of sugar and is acidic, which can both damage teeth - Avoid all soft drinks (squash, fruit drinks and fizzy drinks), even low sugar varieties, as they can still damage teeth	