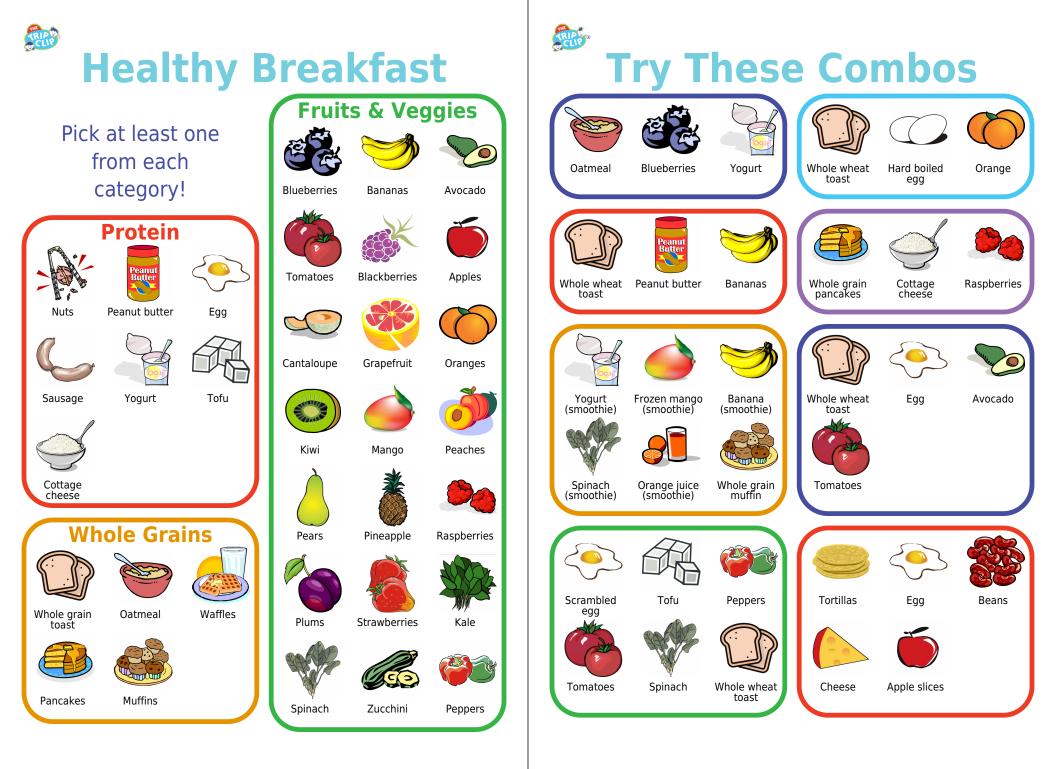
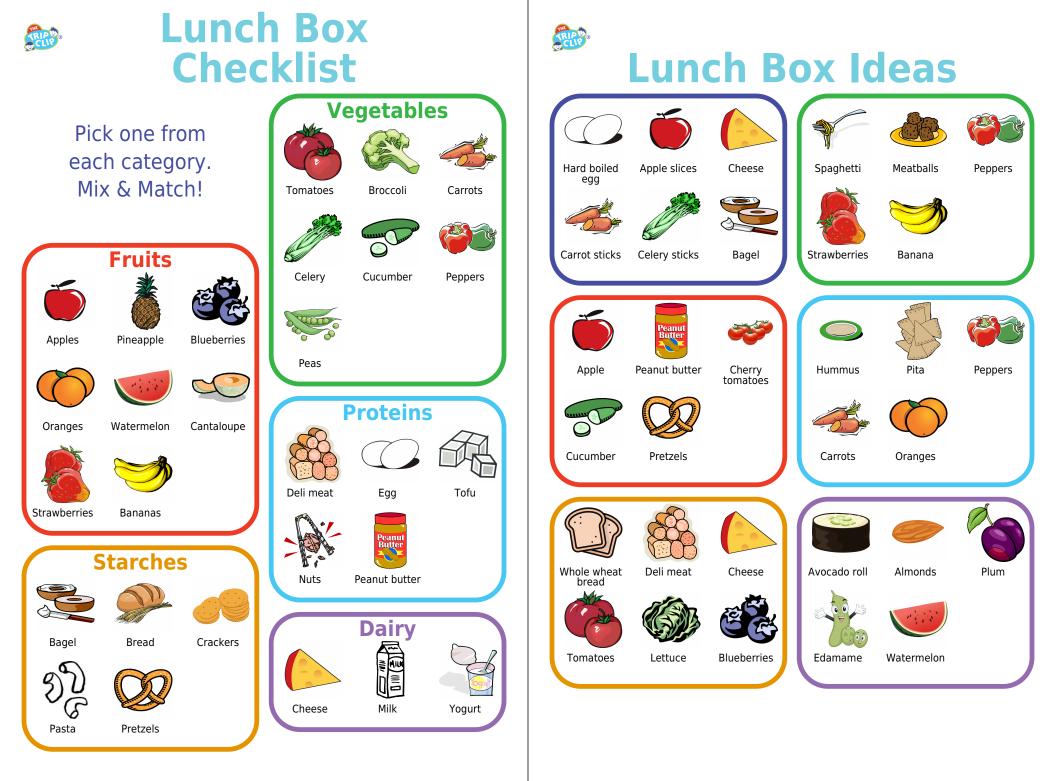




Harvard Medical School Harvard Health Publications www.health.harvard.edu







How to Menu Plan



TIP: You can encourage participation from the whole family by doing all of the below in a shared online location like Google Docs.



Make a list of your family's favorite meals for reference. This is key!

Make a list of family staples that you need to replenish each week.

Consider storing your recipes online for easy access by any chef in the house.

Choose a regular time to menu plan weekly. Try right after dinner on a consistent day of the week.

Create a Menu Plan document the whole family can see.



Write down the days of the week.



Check your family calendar and write down any dinnertime conflicts.

Brainstorm meals for the week that fit around the conflicts - the list of favorite meals from step 2 will be a huge help.

Write down who will cook each meal, aiming to balance the workload across the family. Encourage the chef to pick what meal they'll make on their night to cook.



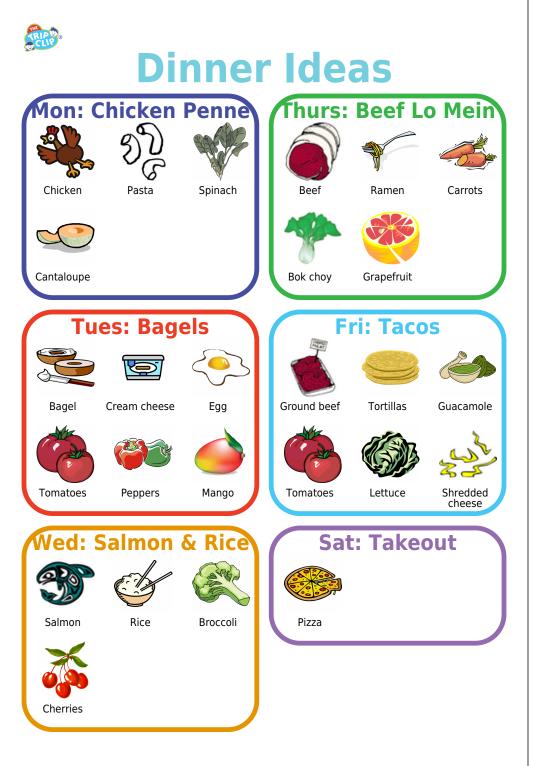
Consider scheduling in some takeout days, especially on nights when everyone is busy.

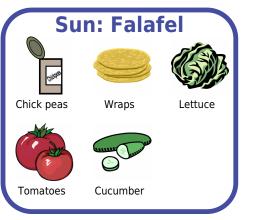


Make the grocery list using the menu plan, online recipes, and the weekly staples list. Try trading off grocery shopping each week with the other household members.

Family Dinners

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun
Plan the meal							
Buy the food							
Cook							
Set the table							
Clear the table							
Put away leftovers							
Do the dishes							





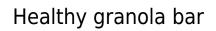


Yogurt with fresh fruit

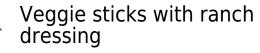
Healthy

Snack Ídeas





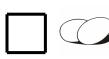


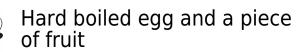




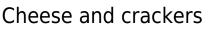
Fruit and nuts

Ants on a log















Guacamole and tortilla chips

Want to make some changes? It's easy to edit this list at TheTripClip.com

This list is designed to fit perfectly on a kid-sized clipboard:



Or try it on any mobile device!

