### **Eating the Rainbow**

- The different colors of fruits and vegetables provide different benefits to support human health.
- An eating pattern that has fruits and vegetables of all colors provides needed vitamins, minerals, antioxidants, and fiber.
- Antioxidants are important for the body to stop cell damage which plays a role in many common diseases, including heart disease and cancer.
- Helpful Tips for Eating the Rainbow:
  - Introduce a variety of fruits and vegetables early in life.
  - Try new recipes that contain new fruits and vegetables.
  - Add a rainbow of produce to your next shopping list.



- Lycopene contributes to the red color of some fruits and vegetables. It is a strong antioxidant in our bodies.
- Red fruits and vegetables function in heart, blood, and joint health by providing fiber and antioxidants to prevent cell damage, inflammation, and plaque build up in blood vessels.
- Try adding some of these fruits and vegetables to your meal plan this week!

Check out the recipes below for some new ideas and head back to <u>carolinahungerinitiative.org</u> for an activity page!

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## Strawberry Yogurt Parfait



Prep Time: 10 min
No cooking required
Servings: 4



### **Ingredients**

- 4 cups plain or vanilla yogurt
- 4 cups fresh strawberries (sliced or chopped)
- 1 cup granola or other cereal
- \*Will need 4 individual bowls, containers, or jars\*

### **Directions**

- 1. Put 1/2 cup of yogurt in an individual bowl, container, or jar.
- 2. Top with 1/2 cup of strawberries. Repeat steps 1 and 2. (Create 2 layers each of yogurt and fruit in each of the 4 individual containers)
- 3. Top with 1/4 cup of granola.

### Tomato Bruschetta







Prep Time: 15 min Cook time: 5 min Servings: 6

#### **Ingredients**

- 5 Roma (plum) tomatoes or about 25 grape tomatoes
- 1 tsp oil
- 2 tsp dried basil or 2 tbsp fresh basil
- 2 cloves garlic or 2 tsp bottled minced garlic or 1/2 tsp garlic powder
- 1/2 loaf of French or Italian bread or about 30 whole grain crackers

# Add low-fat mozzarella cheese for calcium and protein.

#### **Directions**

- 1. Wash and dice tomatoes.
- 2. Place in strainer or colander and drain off liquid.
- 3. Combine tomatoes with remaining ingredients in bowl.
- 4. Slice and toast bread. (Skip this step if you are using crackers)
- 5. To serve, spread on toasted bread or whole grain crackers.

Recipe adapted from https://snapedny.org/recipes/tomato-bruschetta/