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Helping families eat well and be active

Appropriate Servings for Babies Age 6-12 Months

A baby's eating habits will start to change between 6 to 12 months of age. Breast milk and iron-fortified formula will be the main sources of energy and nutrients for your child. A nutrient is something that helps your child's body grow and stay healthy.

Parents can introduce new types of food in this age range, such as pureed vegetables and rice cereal. This will help your baby grow.

By 12 months of age, babies will be able to eat most of the foods served at family meals. Refer to the Healthy Me Introducing solid foods handout for tips on how to introduce new foods.

Use the chart below to determine how much of each food group a baby needs per day:

6–8 Months

Dairy	Breast milk or formula	On demand 3–5 times/day	6–8 ounces	DE-	
Grain	Baby cereal (iron-fortified)	2 times per day	2–3 tablespoons		
	Bread or crackers	2 times per week	¹ / ₄ slice of bread or 2 crackers		
Fruit	Fruit	2 times per day	2–3 tablespoons		
Vegetable	Vegetable	2 times per day	2–3 tablespoons		
Meat	Chicken, beef or pork	1 time per day	1–2 tablespoons		

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8–12 Months

	Breast milk or formula	On demand 3–4 times per day	6-8 ounces	
Dairy	Cheese	1-2 times per week	½ ounce	
	Plain yogurt	1-2 times per week	½ cup	
	Cottage cheese	1-2 times per week	1⁄4 cup	
	Baby cereal (iron-fortified)	2-3 times per day	2–4 tablespoons	-
Grain	Bread or crackers	1-2 times per day	¹ ⁄ ₄ slice of bread or 2 crackers	
Fruit	Fruit	2 times per day	3–4 tablespoons	
Vegetable	Vegetables (fresh or cooked)	2 times per day	3–4 tablespoons	
	Chicken, beef or pork	2 times per day	3–4 tablespoons	
Meat	Dried beans	2-3 times per week	3–4 tablespoons	
	Egg yolk	2-3 times per week	1 yolk	

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