



Trying New Foods



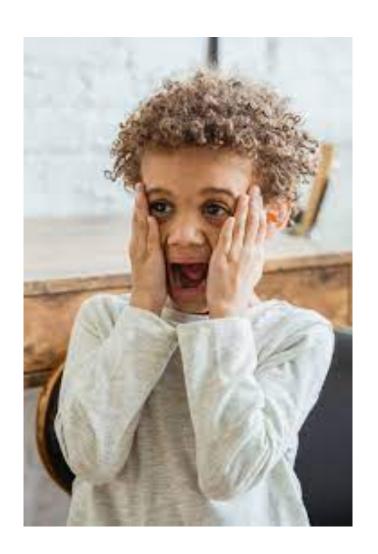








Sometimes it is hard to eat new foods. Sometimes I feel worried about trying new foods.











My caregiver and my doctor told me it is important to eat different kinds of foods to grow and be strong!











It can take a long time to get used to a new food. That is OK!

The food game helps me get used to new foods. During the food game, I do not have to put food in my mouth if I do not want to.











I first touch a new food with my finger. I get very proud of myself and adults around me do too. We celebrate together!











Then, I smell the food. I try to smell from further away and slowly bring it closer to my nose.











Next, when I feel ready, I touch the food to my forehead, then my nose, then my cheek. We celebrate together again!











Then I touch the food to my lips. And give it a kiss. Yay! I did it!











If I feel OK about these steps, I use my courage to go one step further and hold the food between my teeth.



How long can I hold the food between my teeth?









Next, I lick the food with the tip of my tongue, like a snake or a kitten. If this feels OK, I go ahead and give a big lick! We all celebrate after I do this!











Next, I take a tiny bite of the food as if I were a little mouse. If the tiny bite feels OK, I chew and swallow it. As I feel more comfortable, sometimes I am able to take bigger bites, like a hungry hippo!



We all get so excited and I get to choose a fun activity or prize for my hard work!

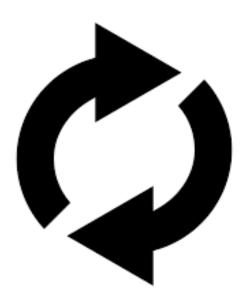








If a step is too scary or makes my body feel sick, we stop doing it. I go back to a step that feels more comfortable and slowly start to try new steps again.











Sometimes I practice the same food game step for many, many days or weeks before we practice the next step.











I feel very proud of myself when I play the food game and master a new step! Let's try it again with something new!





