

# HOW TO CREATE A **HEALTHY PLATE**



What can you make your family for dinner that's healthy and tastes good?

You can follow the plate method! This healthy eating plan works for everybody, including people with diabetes. Indeed making nutritious healthy meals will be a **snap**.

What's a healthy plate? It's a way to control your serving sizes where you don't have to count. Simply use a 7-inch plate for children and a 9-inch plate for adults.

First divide the plate in half and fill one of them with vegetables. There are two types of vegetables, **starchy** like potatoes, corn, peas or plantains and non-starchy like **zucchini**, jicama, **cucumbers**, carrots or salad.

If you have diabetes, fill half your plate with non-starchy vegetables, then fill  $\frac{1}{4}$  with whole grains or starches like brown rice, corn, beans, or **whole wheat** pasta. In the other quarter add some **lean** protein like tofu, grilled fish or chicken.

What about adding a side of tortilla or bread? It's hard to resist, I know!! The trick is: serve yourself a smaller portion of the other starches on your plate instead. To complete your meal add a drink like a unsweetened coffee, tea or a glass of milk, but remember that drinking 8 ounces of milk affects your blood sugar as it would if you ate another tortilla or a slice of bread. Or you can also choose water with a **squeeze** of lemon or lime. How you create your plate is up to you, you have many options as long as you remember to follow these healthy **guidelines**, and TA RA! You're all set!

You might be thinking how can you use the plate method to make vegetable beef soup or other meals? Simply follow the same idea. Fill your pot with low sodium **broth** and lots of healthy vegetables like corn **cabbage**, zucchini, carrots and **onions** and some lean beef, but not too much. Just like you'd put on a quarter of your plate for each person you're serving. If you want, add your favourite type of bread on the side, and you've got the right amount for a healthy meal.

Mmm... Enjoy!

# PICTIONARY

**Zucchini:**



**Cucumber:**



**Jicama:**



**Cabbage:**



**Onion:**

