

2021 Summer Nutrition Club



Lesson 2: It's a Jungle Out There! Let's learn about some great grains and powerful proteins!

Supplies:

- Field Journal (1 per child)
- Writing Utensils
- MyPlate
- Large Cutouts of animals
- Large print out of whole grain label
- Large print out of grain anatomy
- 3 Models for a total of 5 groups (15)
 - Green felt or paper
 - o Blue felt or paper
 - Brown felt or paper
- Recipe Supplies
 - o Oats
 - o Bananas
 - Honey
 - o Dark Chocolate Chips
 - o Cinnamon
 - o Any Nut Butter or alternative
- Paper Plates
- Gloves
- Sanitizer
- Sanitizing Wipes

Preparation

- Gather Supplies
- Purchase supplies and make 5 sets of models, you will need:
 - o 5 forest floor layers



- o 5 canopy/understory layer
- o 5 emergent layers
- Day of- make Rainforest Oat Bites (See recipe in Field Guide)
 - o Scoop bites on lined baking sheet and place in refrigerator for two hours
 - o Remove and then scoop onto plates for children to roll.

Objectives

By the end of the lesson children will:

- 1. Be able to state one way that proteins help their bodies
- 2. Be able to state one plant and one animal source that provides protein
- 3. Be able to state one way that grains help their bodies
- 4. Be able to identify what proportion of grains they eat should be whole grains
- 5. Experience the recipe of the week

I. Welcome (5 minutes)

- Introduction
- Welcome to Summer Nutrition Club
 - Last week we went on an adventure across Asia and sampled foods from one side
 of MyPlate- fruits and vegetables. Today we will explore the other side of
 MyPlate, grains and proteins!

III. Powerful Proteins (10 minutes)

- Humans and animals get proteins from all different foods.
- We need to eat proteins because they serve as building blocks for things like hair, skin, nails and bones!
 - O Some animals may be herbivores, omnivores, or carnivores. Does anyone know what these mean and how it may relate to proteins?
 - Proteins can come from both animal and plant sources!
 - Remind the children that herbivores only eat plants. Omnivores eat both plants and animals. Carnivores eat other animals. Humans may eat both plants and animals, making us omnivores! However, some humans may choose to only eat plants, making them herbivores!
 - Present animals to children one by one. Ask children whether they think the animal present is a herbivore, omnivore, or carnivore.
 - In their field guide, children will record what the animal eats.
 - Sloth- Can everyone move slowly like a sloth? Does a sloth eat plants, animals, or both? A sloth eats plants, so it is an herbivore. Does anyone know any examples of foods you and I may eat that contain plant proteins? We learned about one last week! Tofu! Tofu is made from soybeans and is a great source of protein.
 - Toucan- Does a toucan eat plants, animals, or both? Toucans eat both! This means they are omnivores. Toucans eat tropical fruit, spiders, lizards, and frogs. An example of a meal you and I may eat that has protein from both plants and animal meat is beans and chicken! Beans are very high in protein and super tasty.



- Jaguar- Does a jaguar eat plants, animals or both? Jaguars eat other animals! This makes them carnivores. They often eat fish and birds. What animals may you and I eat to get proteins? Cows, chicken, pigs...
 - Did you know that plants can eat animals??? There's something known as a Venus fly trap and it traps and digests insects!
 - For younger children Sing song to tune of Baby Shark... "Baby Venus fly trap trap trap, Baby Venus fly trap trap trap, Mommy Venus Fly trap trap trap..."

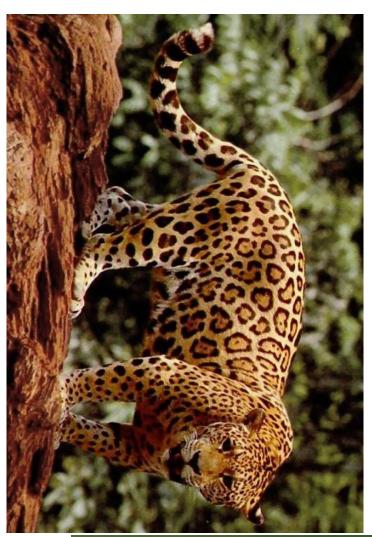
IV. Great Grains (15 minutes)

- Explain that approximately ¼ of their plate should be filed with whole grains and that half of their grains should be WHOLE.
 - o Ask children to repeat "half of my grains should be whole"
 - Show whole grain label
 - o Ask children if they know any examples of grains (bread, rice, oatmeal, etc.)
- Show whole grain anatomy
 - o The bran has fiber to help us digest food.
 - o The endosperm gives us energy to move and think
 - o The germ has b vitamins that help us turn our food to energy
 - When you combine all three you get a whole grain!
- Split children into groups (approximately 5 groups of 6, children will then pair up within groups)
 - o For younger children, consider assigning an adult to each group for guidance
- Explain that the children will be exploring the layers of the rainforest to discover grains. Each larger group will receive 3 models which they will share between the group. After they view a model, they will pass it to their partner. Each child will view each whole grain and record it in their field guide. The whole grains include, oatmeal, pasta, and bread. On the back of each grain children will discover the nutrient facts.
 - o For older children: ask them to identify the ingredient list and dietary fiber value
- Explain that the children must be gentle with the models. When were in nature we need to leave things as we found them so treat the models the same way!
- After every child has seen and recorded the whole grains explain the layers of the rainforest.
 - o Forest floor, understory, canopy, and emergent
 - Forest Floor- There are nearly no plants here. You will find decomposing leaves and lots of insects here! In this layer what did you find? Oatmeal! Oatmeal is a tasty snack that will give us lots of energy!
 - Canopy/Understory- Working our way up from the forest floor, we discover the canopy and understory. This is the primary layer of the rainforest. You'll find lots of trees and branches here. You'll also find the animals we talked about, sloths, toucans, and jaguars. In this layer you found pasta! Pasta fills you up and gives you plenty of energy!
 - Emergent- The tallest trees are located in the emergent layer, there is plenty of sunlight here! You'll find eagles, monkeys and bats up here. In this layer you found whole wheat bread which is full of fiber!



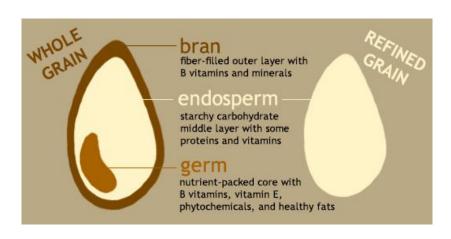
VI. Sampling/ Wrap-up (10 minutes)

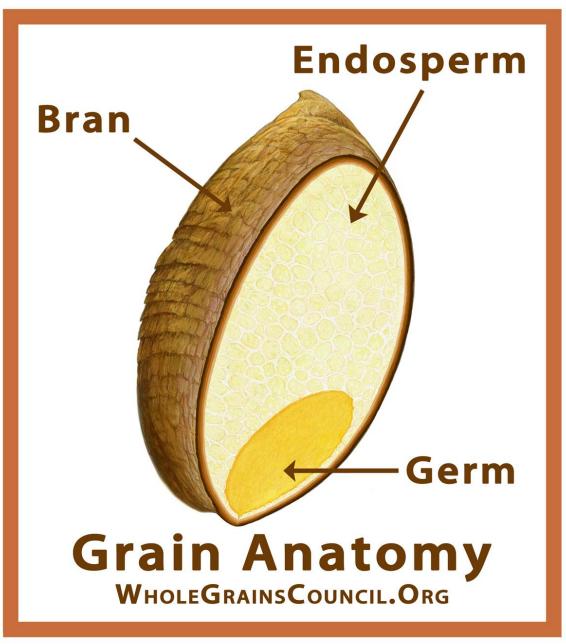
- Today we're going to be trying... Rainforest Oat Bites
 - o Bites will be prepped the day of and stored in the refrigerator
 - Each child will receive a small plate filled with the product and then roll it on a paper plate to form a ball.
- Remind the children that it's okay if they do not like it! Politely place it in a napkin and take it to the trash can. You're still a jungle explorer today no matter what!
- Ask Questions
- Does anyone have any guesses to what are in these?
 - o Reveal ingredients
- Can someone raise their hand and tell me what the whole grain is in this snack?
 - Oats
 - Follow-up- And what amount of the grains we eat should be whole? HALF
- Raise your hand if this was your first-time trying oats! Raise your hand if this was your first time trying a banana!
- Say Goodbyes
 - o I'll see you all next week for another adventure!











DIRECTIONS: FOR 30 CHILDREN (5 sets of 3, 15 total models)

- Print 5 grain pages. Cut out grains and glue the appropriate nutrition label on back of grain.
- Using leaf templates cut leaves out of felt or construction paper in the corresponding colors /backgrounds:
 - o Forest Floor- brown/brown
 - o Understory/Canopy- green/green
 - o Emergent- green/blue
- Partially glue leaves to the background
- Place the grains beneath leaves for children to locate
 - o Forest Floor- oatmeal
 - o Understory/ Canopy- pasta
 - Emergent- bread
- See examples below

Forest Floor



Understory/Canopy



Emergent



GRAINS







Serving size	1 slice (34g
Amount per serving Calories	9
	% Daily value
Total Fat 1g	19
Saturated Fat 0g	19
Trans Fat 0g	
Cholesterol 0mg	09
Sodium 200mg	99
Total Carbohydrate 18g	69
Dietary Fiber 2g	69
Sugar 2g	
Protein 3g	
Calcium 30mg	20
Iron 1.3mg	89





LEAF TEMPLATES

