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June 2011

Providers' Playground

What's for Snack?

Cool Strawberry Salsa with Cinnamon Tortilla Chips

Prized in ancient Rome for their medicinal uses, strawberries are recognized as having more vitamin C than some citrus fruits. They are also high in fiber, folate, potassium



and antioxidants, making them a natural means of reducing the chances of heart disease, high blood pressure and certain cancers.

With only 55 calories per one cup serving, and containing 140% of the recommended daily dose of vitamin C for children, it makes sense to add this fruit to your daily menus.

Makes 6 servings (1/2 cup salsa and 8 chips each).

Prep Time: 10 minutes

Strawberry Salsa:

2 cups chopped strawberries

1 cup chopped kiwi

1 cup chopped seeded cucumber

2 tablespoon honey

4 teaspoons lime juice

1 teaspoon Cinnamon, Ground

1/2 teaspoon Ginger, Ground

Cinnamon Tortilla Chips:

2 tablespoons sugar

1 teaspoon McCormick® Cinnamon, Ground

6 whole wheat tortillas (6-inch)

1. For the Salsa, mix all ingredients in medium bowl until well blended. Cover. Refrigerate 30 minutes to blend flavors.

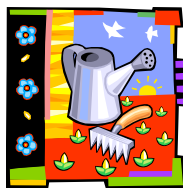
2. For the Chips, preheat oven to 375°F. Mix sugar and cinnamon in small bowl. Spray tortillas lightly with no stick cooking spray. Cut each into 8 wedges. Place on baking sheet. Sprinkle wedges with cinnamon sugar mixture.

3. Bake 8 to 10 minutes or until crisp. Cool completely on wire rack. Serve with Strawberry Salsa.



Recipe from: <http://www.mccormick.com/Recipes>

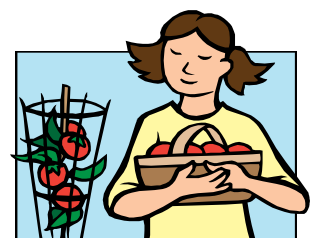
Stay Active! Kids Dig Gardening!



Gardening can be a very therapeutic activity for young and old. Creating a garden with a child, even a small one, can foster a respect for nature. Vegetable gardens are even more interesting to children, since their contributions and patience can yield actual edible gifts. They will learn about where their food comes from and gain an understanding of how we fuel our bodies. Even if you don't have a large backyard or green space, you can still plot a small area for vegetables or flowers. If you don't have an area for a dedicated vegetable garden, you can use a planter or pot to grow herbs or strawberries on your porch or balcony. For most kids, digging in the soil is plenty fun and the extra reward of a fruit or vegetable to pick and eat in the following weeks will be exciting. Also, Gardening provides all three types of exercise: endurance, flexibility, and strength. (From: www.kidsgardening.com)

More resources on how to make gardening fun for kids:

- http://www.squidoo.com/gardening_ideas_for_kids
- http://eartheasy.com/grow_gardening_children.htm
- <http://tlc.howstuffworks.com/family/garden-activities-for-kids.htm>



Business Corner

Do you have Errors on your claim?
Common claim errors and how you can solve them!

A Pending (or unknown) status child was claimed



A child number has been claimed for which CMA does not have a valid enrollment. This may occur for several reasons:

It may be that the enrollment was received late, after the claim has already been processed. Or, it may be that the child was enrolled online through web-kids, but no signed enrollment has been received by CMA. Possibly, an incorrect child number was marked, causing a child that does not exist to be claimed.

Provider's own children cannot be claimed unless the provider is Tier 1 Income Eligible.

Own children are only reimbursed at Tier 1 rates when the provider is Tier 1 eligible by Income. If the provider claims her own children and is not Tier 1 Income eligible, this error is generated and the own children are not paid. This error may occur because the Income eligibility dates have expired. *Please note; CMA cannot reprocess claims because of late*

Income Eligibility Forms/verification. IEF's may not be backdated.

School aged child served a meal when child should have been in school.

This error is generated when a school aged child is served an AM Snack or Lunch on a school day. Any school aged child claimed for these meals must be noted ahead of time in order for the meals to be eligible. If a school aged child is home from school due to illness, a message must be made on the CIF (child information form) detailing the dates and reasons AM/L was claimed. This error may also occur if CMA does not have the child's correct school information. Please check the CIF every month to ensure the correct school information is documented. CMA should be notified immediately if a child's school times, track, or other information changes. Providers should not mark school aged children present for AM or L unless the above issues apply. Consistently marking a school aged child for a meal when they should be in school may signal that the provider is not keeping daily records.



Child does not normally attend day of week/given meal

Children are enrolled such that the parent specifies the meals and days of the week that the child will attend. These claim errors are generated if a particular meal or day is not specified on the child's original enrollment. When enrolling a child, please be sure to mark all possible meals and days that the child will be in care. Also, if there is a change in the child's schedule, a note or "Child Schedule Update Form" signed by the parent detailing the changes should be given to CMA as soon as possible.

Don't forget to sign kids in and out!

Sign-in/out Requirement:

Don't forget that all providers must use sign-in/out forms. **Parents** must initial by each child's name. Also, providers must sign their own children in and out. Providers should keep these records in their binders. Monitors will review sign in/out forms during reviews. These are considered part of daily record keeping requirements. *If the sign in / out sheets are incomplete, meals will be disallowed.* If you need blank sign in/out forms, please call the office! **Remember, all claim records must be recorded daily!**

May 2011

Su	Mon	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

June 2011

Sun	Mon	Tu	Wed	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

Last Day for March Claims:

Monday, May 30

Last Day for April Claims:

Wed, June 29

May Claims Due:

Monday, June 6

CMA

8831 S Redwood Rd.

Suite D1

West Jordan, UT
84088

P: 801-566-1007

F: 801-566-1158

www.cmautah.net

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.