

Portion size

The table below will give you an idea of how much of each food group a child should be taking a day.

Remember that their tummies are small, so portions should also be small. Using their hand as a guide will help assess portion size for each individual child.

Food group	Portions	Examples	
		1 and 2 years	3 and 4 years
Bread, rice, potatoes and pasta	4 a day	 1 slice bread 3 tbsp dry cereal 1 small boiled potato 3 tbsp cooked pasta 2 tbsp cooked rice 	 1 slice bread 5 tbsp dry cereal 2 small boiled potatoes 4 tbsp cooked pasta 3 tbsp cooked rice
Fruit and veg	5 a day	 ½ cooked sliced apple 1 tbsp canned fruit (in juice) 1 tbsp cooked vegetables 5 quartered grapes 4 cooked carrot sticks 	 ½ large sliced apple 2 tbsp canned fruit (in juice) 2 tbsp cooked vegetables 8 halved grapes 6 carrot sticks
Meat, fish, eggs and beans	2-3 a day	 1 small slice chicken 2 tbsp fish in sauce 1 egg 1 tbsp beans/lentils 	 1 slice chicken 3 tbsp fish in sauce 1 egg 2 tbsp beans/lentils
Milk and dairy	3 a day	 1 small cup milk (100ml) 1 tbsp unsweetened yogurt 2 small sticks hard cheese 3 tbsp custard 	 1 cup milk (150ml) 2 tbsp unsweetened yogurt 2 sticks hard cheese 4 tbsp custard
High fat and high sugar foods	0-2 a day	4 chips1 small piece of cake1 plain biscuit1 tbsp ice cream	6 chips1 medium piece of cake2 plain biscuit2 tbsp ice cream