

What we eat has a powerful impact on how we feel, think, and perform—especially for athletes and growing minds. Healthy eating isn't just about energy; it's about fueling the brain for focus, emotional regulation, and recovery. Whether it's game day or a study session, balanced meals and smart snacks help young people stay strong, sharp, and resilient. Use the ideas below to build habits that nourish both the body and mind.

# Sample Snacks

- String Cheese
- Turkey and Cheese on Whole Grain Rolls
- Fro Yo Pouches (grocery stores have many options)
- Peanut Butter with Apple
- Hard Boiled Eggs (kick up the flavor using hot sauce, everything bagel seasoning)
- Beef Jerky
- Nuts and Seeds
- Trail Mix
- Yogurt Parfaits
- Hummus with Veggies
- Peanut Butter Crackers
- Fig Bars
- Granola Bars
- No Bake Energy/Protein Bites

### **Quick Breakfast Ideas**

- Breakfast Sandwich on Whole Grain English Muffin
- Fruit Salad
- Fruit & Yogurt Parfait using Whole Grain/Flax/Chia Seeds



- Overnight Oats
- Egg & Whole Grain Avocado Toast
- Smoothies
- Meal Prep Veggie Frittata
- Sweet Potato Waffles with Bananas, Blueberries and Pecans

# **Hydration Strategies**

### **Hydrating Fruits**

- Watermelon
- Oranges
- Grapes

- Peaches
- Strawberry
- Pineapple

#### **Infused Waters**

- Strawberry Kiwi
- Watermelon, Lime and Mint

Diced Pineapple, Pineapple Juice, Grapes

## **Healthy Team Meal Ideas**

- Pasta with lean meat sauce and veggies, garden salad and whole grain rolls
- Stir Fry with Chicken/ Pork or Beef and veggies over rice or noodles
- Chicken and Vegetable Quesadillas with Tortilla Chips and Guacamole
- Grilled Chicken Breast with marinade (Italian Dressing, Fajita, BBQ Sauces)
- Salmon with seasonings (Classic Dill and Lemon, Everything Bagel, Dukkah Spice, Blackened Spice)
- Honey Harissa Chicken Tacos, Sweet and Smoky Beef Tacos and Southwest Quinoa Salad
- **Build It Bar Themes** (Be sure to include lots of fun toppings so folks can personalize their bowl, this is also a great time for folks to be adventurous and try new dishes)
  - Southwest Cilantro Lime Brown Rice, Black Bean and Corn Quinoa, Chipotle Cumin Grilled Chicken, Grilled Flank Steak
  - Greek Basmati Rice, Quinoa and Orzo Blend, Souvlaki Grilled Chicken, Grilled Red Onions and Flank Steak, Falafel
  - Buddha Roasted Sweet Potatoes, Kale and Spinach Power Greens, Grilled Chicken, Grilled Steak, lots of fun veggies, avocado, assorted nuts and seeds
  - Mac and Cheese Butternut Squash Mac and Cheese, BBQ Grilled Chicken, Beef & Bean Chili

