

Learning Session 3:
Serving Meals
Family-Style &
Supporting
Breastfeeding





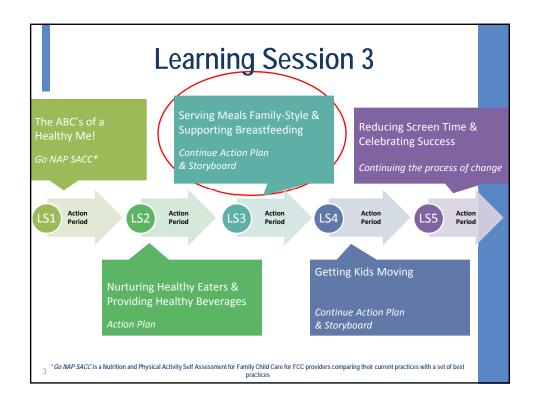
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National Early Care and Education Learning Collaboratives (ECELC) Project

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#### **Learning Session 3 Objectives**

### At the end of the Learning Session, providers will be able to:

- 1. Describe best practices for family-style dining and breastfeeding support and identify change opportunities within their program;
- 2. Continue the Action Plan and develop action steps for the provider and environment; and
- 3. Continue to document and communicate the process of healthy changes on their storyboard.





#### Family-Style Dining



Family-Style Dining with 2 Year Olds

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#### What is Family-Style Dining?

- A meal service approach that helps providers support children to have developmentally appropriate mealtime experiences and helps to prevent childhood obesity
- Involves children and adults sitting together to enjoy foods and beverages in a manner that supports children's independence
- Foods and beverages are placed on the table where the children and adults sit together to share the meal
- Children are encouraged to serve themselves independently with adult help when needed.

# Why is Family-Style Dining Important?

- Enriches a child's learning environment
- Gives children the opportunity to take an active role in their feeding
- Creates a unique opportunity for us to model healthy food choices and table manners

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# Characteristics of Family-Style Dining

- Children help set the table
- Child-size tables, utensils, and serving dishes are utilized
- Food is passed in small containers
- Beverages are served in small pitchers
- Children serve themselves
- Providers sit at the table with children and role model by eating the same foods
- Children engage in conversation

### Family-Style Dining Supports Child Development

- Small, large, oral motor development
  - Passing out plates, tipping a pitcher of milk, and lifting a serving spoon of food use a variety of motor skills
  - Learning to use serving utensils, such as tongs, allows children to develop fine motor skills
  - Children need to balance to stay in their chairs, which strengthens core muscles
  - Oral motor skills are developed when children learn to drink from a glass



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## Family-Style Dining Supports Child Development

- Social Development
  - Provides teaching opportunities for sharing, turn taking, and table manners
  - Children learn empathy and how to recognize and respond to others' needs
  - As children talk with their peers and adults at meals, they practice social etiquette behaviors, such as saying "please" and "thank you", and learn the art of conversation and how important these are for a pleasant mealtime experience
  - Adult role modeling of both manners and conversation skills is fundamental to family-style dining

## Family-Style Dining Supports Child Development

#### Language Development

- Mealtime conversations develops children's language and can create a language-rich environment
- Using words and sentences describing the flavor, texture, color, or temperature of a food enriches children's vocabulary
- Talk about topics that interest the children in your program!



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#### Family-Style Dining Supports Child Development

#### Emotional Development

- Can boost a child's self confidence through trying new things and mastering new skills
- Getting food from the serving bowl to their plate is a reason to celebrate
  - "I did it!" are important words for children to say
- Waiting their turn for food to be passed around helps children practice self-regulation
- Children learn independence when they help to set the table, serve themselves, and clear the table



# Getting Children Ready for Family-Style Dining

- To be successful with family-style meal service, it's important that children:
  - Learn and develop mealtime skills
  - Practice self-feeding

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### **Child Size Equipment**

- Developmentally appropriate equipment allows children to:
  - Develop and enhance fine motor skills to grasp, hold, and manipulate small objects and tools
  - Improve hand-eye coordination skills





### Getting Yourself Ready for Family-Style Dining

- It's important that you are prepared to:
  - Encourage self-feeding practices
  - Arrange seating to support skills
  - Assess children's mealtime skills
  - Integrate Meal Service
     Practice into other activities



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## Integrating Meal Service into Daily Activities

- Daily transitions and routines
- Dramatic play
- Small motor experiences
- Sand and water play
- Literacy and music/movement activities





### **Create a Mealtime Environment that Promotes Learning and Exploration**

#### Phrases that Hinder

- "You have to eat that"
- "Do not leave the table until everything is finished"
- "Carli, look at Maria. She ate all of her bananas and you did not."
- "You may not have seconds, we don't have enough to give them to everyone."
- "I'm going to tell your mom you weren't a good eater today at school."

#### Phrases that Help

- "These radishes are crunchy! What other vegetable is crunchy?"
- "This is a kiwi. It is sweet. What fruits do you like that are sweet?"
- "What should you do when your stomach is full from eating?"
- "Thank you for trying a new vegetable. It is ok that you did not like it"

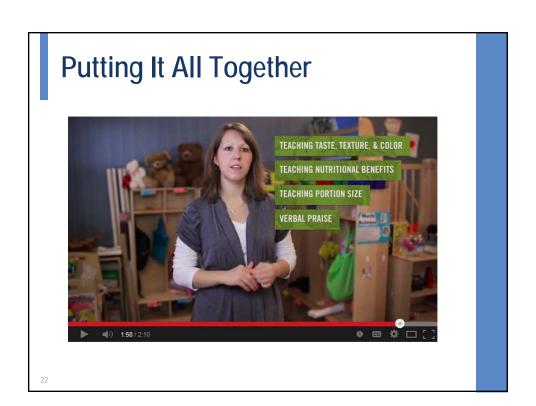


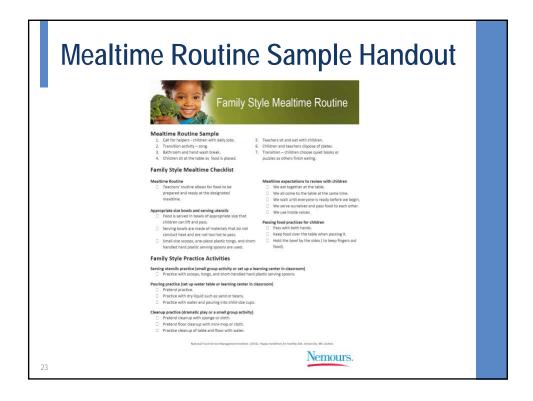
## Getting Your Home Ready for Family-Style Dining

- Procure appropriate furniture and equipment
- Implement gradually









#### **Physical Activity Break**





#### **Call to Action**

"One of the most highly effective preventative measures a mother can take to protect the health of her infant and herself is to breastfeed. The decision to breastfeed is a personal one, and a mother should not be made to feel guilty if she cannot, or chooses not to breastfeed. The success rate among mothers who choose to breastfeed can be greatly improved through active support..."

**Action:** Ensure that all early care and education providers accommodate the needs of breastfeeding mothers and infants.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Executive Summary: The Surgeon General's Call to Action to Support Breastfeeding. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Surgeon General; 2011.

#### Why is breastfeeding important?

- Mother's milk is best for babies.
- Mother's milk provides her baby exactly what is needed to grow and thrive
- Breastmilk changes over time to keep up with a baby's changing nutrition and disease protection needs
- To date, over 30 components to breast milk have been identified, protecting babies from infections and illness.
- Breastfed babies benefit from "borrowing" their mother's immune system at exactly the time when they are most susceptible to illnesses due to the immaturity of their own immune system

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#### **Breastfed Babies are Healthier**

- It's no surprise then that breastfed babies are healthier
  - Less likely to grow up to be obese or suffer from conditions like diabetes and asthma
  - Get sick less often with things like diarrhea and ear infections. When they do get sick, it is usually not severe.
  - Breastfeeding helps protect babies against Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS).
- The physical contact involved in breastfeeding is also important to newborns. It can help them feel more secure, warm and comforted.



# Why Do Moms Need Your Support?

- 81% of moms desire to breastfeed
- 79% of moms start breastfeeding
- 60% of moms do not meet their breastfeeding goals (frequency and/or duration)
- Returning to work is the primary reason for ending breastfeeding
- Shorter duration of breastfeeding if baby is in an early care and education environment

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#### **Breastfeeding Benefits Women**

- Health Benefits
  - Type 2 diabetes
  - Breast and ovarian cancer
  - Postpartum depression
- Increased weight loss
- Attachment
- Convenience
- Savings



# Breast Milk Can Save You Money

#### Breast milk is part of the CACFP meal pattern

- It is reimbursable for infants if fed by the mother or care provider
- It's free! No equipment to purchase
  - Cost effective for families as well
- For children over 12 months, breast milk may be substituted for cow's milk
  - Doctor's note may be required

#### Human milk is food

- You do not need to store human milk in a separate refrigerator
- You do <u>not</u> need to wear gloves to give a bottle of human milk or formula
- Contact with human milk is not hazardous exposure

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#### **Breastfeeding Report Card**

	National	Healthy People 2020 Targets
Ever breastfed	81.1%	81.9%
Exclusively BF at 3 months	44.4%	46.2%
Exclusively BF at 6 months	22.3%	25.5%
Breastfeeding at 6 months	51.8%	60.6%
Breastfeeding at 1 year	30.7%	34.1%

#### **Breastfeeding Recommendations**

- The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends:
  - Exclusive breastfeeding for about 6 months, followed by continued breastfeeding as complementary foods are introduced
  - Continuation of breastfeeding for at least 1 year
  - Continuation of breastfeeding beyond 1 year for as long as mutually desired by mother and infant
- Exclusive breastfeeding means an infant is given no other substances for food (e.g. no infant formula or water)

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	Is Your FCC Program Breastfeeding Friendly?	
	1. My child care home is a place where breastfeeding families are welcome.  YesNo	
	<ul> <li>I encourage mothers to visit and breastfeed during the day.</li> <li>When meeting with new families, I include information about how I support breastfeeding.</li> <li>There is a sign/poster visible to mothers so they know breastfed babies are welcome.</li> </ul>	
	My child care home helps mothers to continue breastfeeding their babies when they return to work or school.  YesNo  No	
	1 have a constronble place available for mothers to surse their infants before or after work. 1 ensure that muniting mothers employed by me have reasonable breaks each city to express milk and reasonable efforts are made to provide a room or other location (not a bedroom) to express milk in privacy.	
	My child care home has accurate written materials on breastfeeding topics available for all parents.  YesNo	
	<ul> <li>I offer written materials that are easy to understand and are not produced by formula companies.</li> <li>I understand the breastfeeding materials offered to families.</li> <li>I provide Mones with informational about community resources such as support groups, WIC Breastfeeding Coordinators and Lacturion Consultants.</li> </ul>	
	4 My child care home feeds infants on demand and coordinates feeding times with the mother's normal feeding schedule. YesNo	
	<ul> <li>I develop an infant feeding plan with each family as infants enroll. The plan is updated as infants move through the stages of development.</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>I do not give breastfed babies food/drink, other than their mother's breast milk, unless indicated in the feeding plan.</li> <li>I feed infinits based on their hunger and fullness cues.</li> <li>Refrigerator and freezer space is available for pumped breast milk which is labeled with the infant's full name and the</li> </ul>	
	date it was pumped.  - I encourage mother to provide a small backup supply of frozen breast milk in case the infant needs to eat more often or the pickup time is delayed.	
	5. My child care home is prepared to support breastfeeding moms. YesNo	
	<ul> <li>I am trained about the benefits of breastfeeding, how to prepare, feed and store human milk and I have breastfeeding resources available for my families.</li> <li>Training for my assistant(s) is given soon after they are hired.</li> </ul>	
34	Adapted from the it Your Day Care Home Descripeding Priendly Self-Assessment, developed by the New York State Department of Health, Child and Adult Care Food Program	

#### **Hunger Cues**

- Doctors recommend that all babies be fed when they are hungry, rather than on a schedule
- Hunger Cues
  - Moving head side to side
  - Opening mouth and sticking out tongue
  - Puckering lips to suck
  - Rooting reflex
- Watch the baby, not the clock
- It is normal for young babies to eat only 2-3 ounces of milk in one sitting
- We want babies to learn that when they are hungry, they eat, and then they are full
- Scheduled feeding disrupts this learning

### Is Your Baby Hungry or Full? Responsive Feeding Explained



The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) has resources to explain and promote responsive feeding including a video, infographic, and tip pages.

#### **General Infant Feeding**

- Breastfed babies do not need solid food before 6 months
  - Early solids replace breast milk, which should still be main source of food
  - Introduce solids when developmentally appropriate
- Introduce solids at signs of readiness
  - Sits with good head control
  - Opens mouth when food comes his/her way
  - Can move food from spoon to back of throat
- Don't feed cereal in a bottle
  - It's bad for teeth and will not help a baby sleep longer
- Hold infants while feeding them
  - Puts you in good position to see an infant signaling they are full

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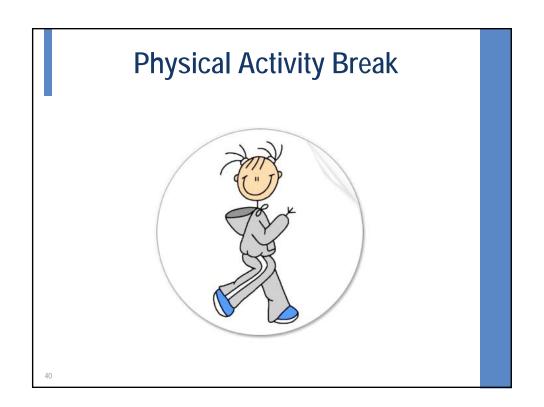
### **Cultural Views of Breastfeeding**

- Many different cultures look at breastfeeding as a natural choice for feeding
- Many countries have banned the practice of giving free or subsidized formula to new mothers
- Accepting and understanding cultural differences increases cultural sensitivity to those parents who decide to breastfeed
- Some cultures discourage breastfeeding because it 'spoils' babies and/or discourages babies from sleeping through the night

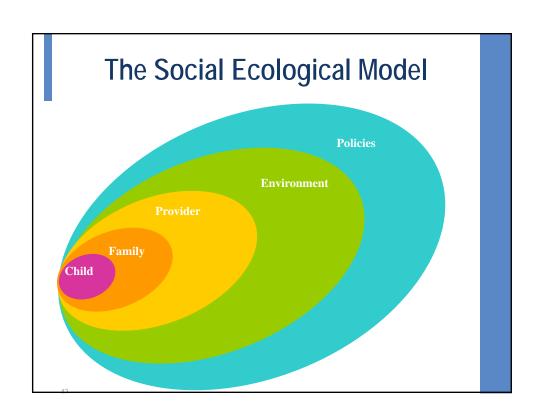


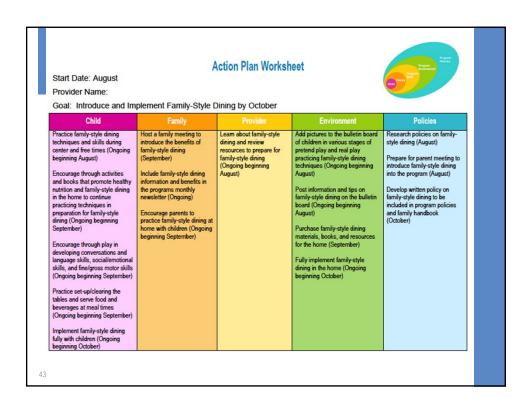


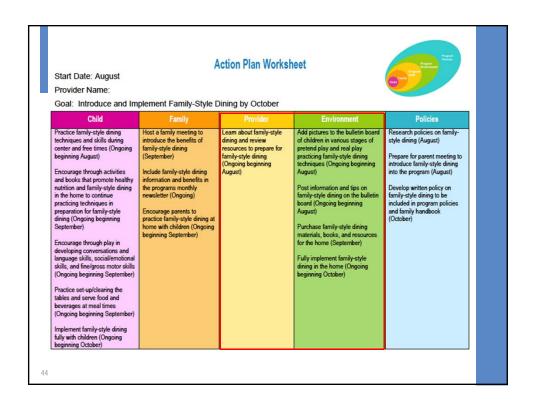


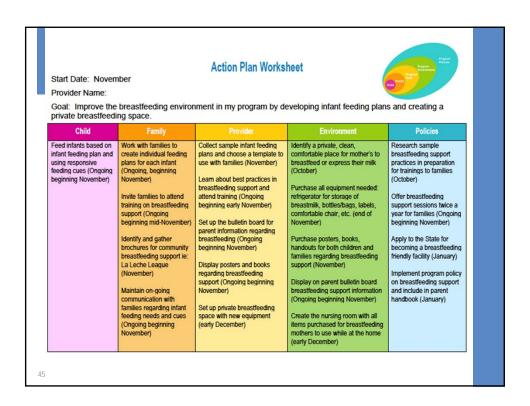


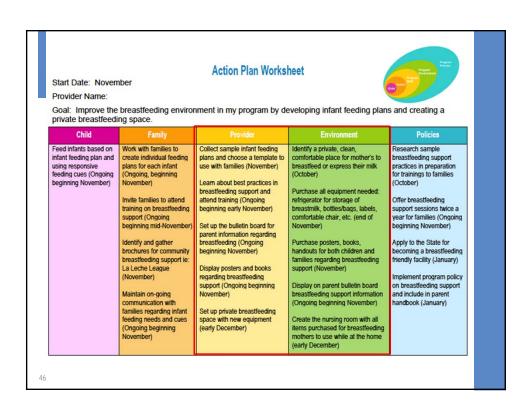












#### Sample Policy: Family-Style Dining

### At ABC Family Child Care, we support family-style dining by:

- Role-modeling positive healthy eating behaviors in the presence of children
- Sitting with children at the table and eating the same meals and snacks
- Encouraging children to try developmentally-appropriate servings of new foods
- Providing child-size tables, utensils and serving dishes at mealtime
- Providing opportunities outside of mealtime to strengthen pouring and scooping skills that can be utilized during family-style dining



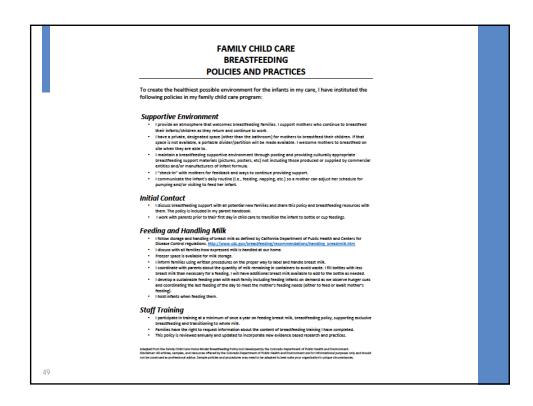
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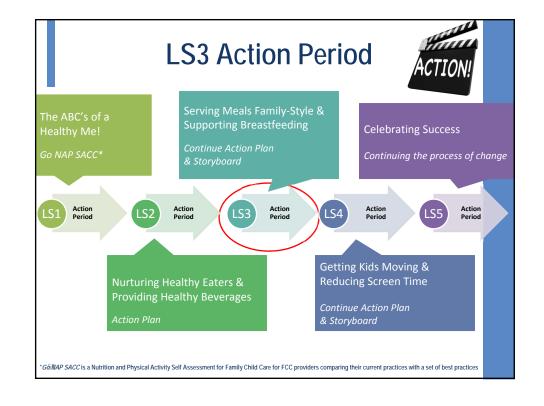
### Sample Policy: Breastfeeding Support

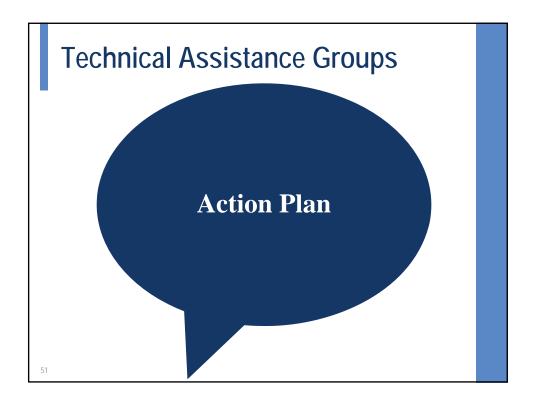
### At ABC Family Child Care, we support breastfeeding and infant feeding by:

- Providing a clean, welcoming place for mothers to breastfeed or express their milk
- Offering breastfeeding promotional materials that are culturally appropriate
- Providing a refrigerator for the storage of expressed milk









# Facilitating Change in Your Program: LS3 Action Period



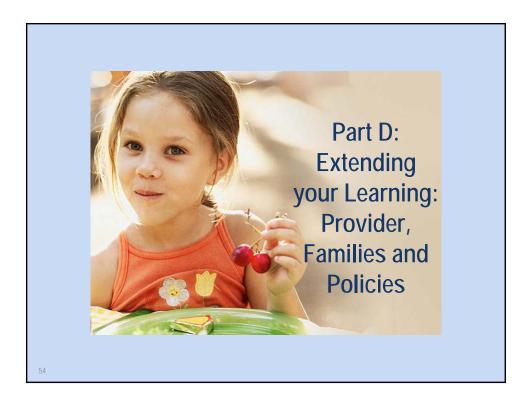
- Opportunity to:
  - Implement action steps for the provider and environment identified for the 1-2 areas providers would like to improve upon
  - Continue a storyboard demonstrating what area(s) the provider improved
- Trainers provide technical assistance (TA)

#### **Continuing Your Storyboard**



#### Providers will finalize their story of change by:

- Describing what change(s) were made and how they did it
- Sharing who was involved in the process
- Explaining accomplishments and challenges faced
- Sharing photos of the implementation process
- Outlining any policies that were updated as a result
- Explaining the next steps they will take to sustain the change(s)



#### Family-Style Dining at Home

- Encourage families to practices family-style dining at home
- You can promote family-style dining by:
  - Offering special days that parents can participate in eating family-style (Mother's/Father's Day Breakfast, Back to School Night, etc.)
  - Sending home easy/quick recipes that allow less time for cooking and more time for eating together at the table
  - Taking photos of children eating family-style at your home and send home a conversation starter for 'table talk'



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## Support mothers in breastfeeding as they return to work

- 80% of mothers desire to breastfeed, but 60% are unable to meet their breastfeeding goals
- Returning to work is the primary reason mothers end breastfeeding early
- Important steps to supporting nursing mothers:
  - Talk with the mother to begin to understand her ideas and goals for breastfeeding.
  - Reassure breastfeeding moms that they are doing the best thing for their baby.
  - Encourage them to breastfeed as long as possible.



#### **Advocating for Breastfeeding**

- Breastfeeding is more than a lifestyle choice, it's a public health issue
- Benefits for employers
  - Moms miss fewer days of work because child isn't sick as often.
- Benefits for society
  - Decreased abuse and neglect rates for Mothers who breastfeed.
  - If 90% of mothers breastfed for 6 months:
    - 1,000 infant deaths could be prevented
    - U.S. could save \$13 billion



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## Resources for Providers and Parents

- La Leche League
- National Resource Center for Health and Safety in Child Care and Early Education
- International Board Certified Lactation Consultants
- Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative
- Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)
- CDC's Breastfeeding and Early Care and Education: Increasing Support for Breastfeeding Families



# CDC's Breastfeeding and Early Care and Education: Increasing Support for Breastfeeding Families





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#### Resources

- Healthy Kids, Healthy Future
  - www.healthykidshealthyfuture.org
- MyPlate for Preschoolers
  - http://www.choosemyplate.gov/preschoolers.html
- Nutrition and Wellness Tips for Young Children
  - www.teamnutrition.usda.gov
- Nemours' Best Practices for Healthy Eating
  - www.healthykidshealthyfuture.org
- Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)
  - www.fns.gov/cacfp

