



The U.S. Department of Agriculture's

The National Food Study

Youth Book

For foods you get when not with a parent or guardian







Your household has been selected at random to participate in this study. If you agree to participate, we ask you to keep track of the meals and snacks that you get away from home for 7 days and to save receipts from your food purchases. You also agree that we can use, for study purposes, the information about you that was provided by the primary respondent in your household. It will take about one hour of your time during the week and you will get a gift card at the end of the week. Participation is voluntary. We are required by law to use your information for statistical research only and to keep it confidential. The law prohibits us from giving anyone any information that may identify you or your family.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _









About the Study

The **National Food Study** is collecting information from households throughout the United States. This study will answer questions like:

- Where do people get their food?
- What types of food do people get?
- How often do people get food?
- How much money do people spend on food?

Your family has agreed to take part in this national study.

Make sure that kids count! We need your help!

For the next week we want you to keep track of all the foods and drinks you buy or get for free.

- Use this book to track foods and drinks that you get (don't include foods that your parent/guardian writes in their book)
- Give your book to your parent or guardian on days 2, 5, and 7 when they call us to report the foods your family got
- Get a gift card at the end of the week for completing this book
- Help us to make the National Food Study a big success!

Remember ... the information that you provide will be kept confidential. Your name will be removed from your book after it is received. Your answers, and all the information provided by your household, will be grouped with others.

HOW to USE This Food BookFollow these easy **STEPS** every day!



START a new **red page** for each place where get food from outside your home



WRITE CLEARLY and be careful when writing numbers



DESCRIBE each food and drink that you get



SAVE receipts and place them in the back pocket

Find more information and video training at www.usdafoodstudy.org

QUESTIONS? Call 1-866-275-8659

- Write down foods and drinks you got (don't include foods that your parent/guardian writes in their book)
- Write each food and drink on a separate line
- Don't tell us what you EAT, tell us what you GET!

Ways to Describe Food and Drinks

What to look for	Examples
√ The BRAND or product name	Pepsi, Doritos, Gatorade, Dannon Yogurt
√ The TYPE of food	White or whole wheat bread, chicken nuggets or grilled chicken breast
√ The FORM of the food	Raw carrots or cooked carrots
√ The FLAVOR	Chocolate milk, oatmeal cookie, or vanilla yogurt
√ The FAT and SUGAR	Whole milk or 1% milk; regular or diet soda; 100% juice or fruit-flavored drink
√ Things you ADDED	Butter on bread, ketchup on fries, dressing on salad

Write down the **size** or **weight** if it is on the package (such as 12 oz can of soda) and how many you got (such as 2 cookies).

(√) DAY you got food	Mon	√ Tue	We	d	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun		
Name of PLACE where you got food:	School c	School cafeteria								
Location:	School									
(√) CHECK the meal or snack	☐Break	fast 🔽	Lunch		Dinner	/Supper	☐ Sna	ack/drink		
TOTAL PAID (including tax)	\$		√] (√)	if free					
Complete this second the receipt DOE				eceipt						
Write each food and drink on a separate line			te line	Write size or amount if you know it (S,M, L or ounces, grams, lbs, etc.)		How many?	Amount paid			
Bean & Cheese k sour cream	burrito w	ith salsa {	&				1			
Spanish rice							1			
Chocolate milk -	1%				8 o	z	1			
			_	1						
				П						
	57									

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Location:	Cedar St	reet								
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TOTAL PAID (including tax)	\$ 3	\$ a 6 6 □ (√) if free								
Complete this sec or the receipt DOE				ceipt						
Write each food and drink on a separate line			ite line	Write size o if you know (S,M, L or ou grams, Ibs, e	i t unces,	How many?	Amount paid			
French fries				Larg	1	\$1.89				
Diet Coke				Larg	ge	1	\$1.59			
				12						
	5									

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√ Things you ADDED	Butter on bread, ketchup on fries, dressing on salad

Write down the **size** or **weight** if it is on the package (such as 12 oz can of soda) and how many you got (such as 2 cookies).

Save receipts in pocket at back page

(√) DAY you got food	Mon	Tue	We	d Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
Name of PLACE where you got food:							
Location:							
(√) CHECK the meal or snack	Breakt	fast \Box	Lunch	☐ Dinner	/Supper	☐ Sna	ack/drink
TOTAL PAID (including tax)	\$			() if free			
Complete this secon the receipt DOE				ceipt			
Write each food ar	nd drink or	ı a separa	te line	Write size of if you know (S,M, L or or grams, lbs, e	it unces,	How many?	Amount paid

Remember ...

- Write down foods and drinks you got (don't include foods that your parent/guardian writes in their book)
- Write each food and drink on a separate line
- Don't tell us what you EAT, tell us what you GET!

Ways to Describe Food and Drinks

What to look for	Examples
√ The BRAND or product name	Pepsi, Doritos, Gatorade, Dannon Yogurt
√ The TYPE of food	White or whole wheat bread, chicken nuggets or grilled chicken breast
√ The FORM of the food	Raw carrots or cooked carrots
√ The FLAVOR	Chocolate milk, oatmeal cookie, or vanilla yogurt
√ The FAT and SUGAR	Whole milk or 1% milk; regular or diet soda; 100% juice or fruit-flavored drink
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Questions and Answers

Q: What if I don't buy any meals, snacks, or drinks on some days?

A: That's okay. Some people don't buy food every day. Did you get anything for free at school, from your friends, or from any other place? If yes, write that down.

Q: What if all the food I ate came from our kitchen?

A: Then you do not need to write anything in the book.

Q: Can I just save my receipts and not write in the book?

A: No, because some receipts are hard to read or don't include all the information we need. You need to save the receipt <u>and</u> complete the <u>red page</u>.

Q: What types of foods and drinks do you want to know about?

A: All of the food that **you** <u>and</u> **everyone in your household** get during the study period. Your parent or guardian will keep track of groceries and other food that they bring home, and meals and snacks that they get away from home.

You need to track foods and drinks that you get. Don't forget the small items! Sometimes people have just chips or a drink for lunch—we want to know about that.

Q: Who needs to fill out a book?

A: Each person age 11 and older may fill out a book. An adult should write foods acquired by children under age 11.

Questions and Answers (continued)

Q: Should I estimate or guess the amount or size?

A: No. Write the amount (for example, the number of ounces or grams) or the size (for example, small, medium, large) only if it is listed on a package or menu.

Q: What should I do if someone buys food for me?

A: If someone buys food for you, list the place where they got the food and write down \$0.00 for the total paid since you did not pay anything.

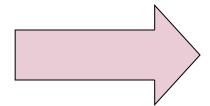
Q: What should I do if I only paid for part of the meal?

A: If you have a receipt but you only paid for part of the meal, circle the items that you paid for and write the amount that you paid.

Still have questions? Call us! We're here to help!

1-866-275-8659

SAVE receipts in pocket



According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0536-0068. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 7 minutes per day, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information.



The National Food Study is a project of the United States Department of Agriculture Economic Research Service. To learn more, go to www.usdafoodstudy.org.