

Food Smart – You are what you Eat



Lesson	You Are What You Eat!	50/60-minute session	
Learning Outcomes	 To be able to understand what processed food means To be able to make an informed choice of which processed foods are still healthy To be able to use food labelling correctly to inform healthy food choices Extension – to understand sugar levels in food (Potential links to English, Science & Maths) 		
Resources Needed	 Processes of Food Food Cards Food Packaging Labels Teacher Resource Notes 		

Adaption maybe required depending on needs and age.				
	Outline	Resources		
Introduction	Do you know what a processed food is? - Class Discussion			
5mins	Processed foods aren't just microwave or ready meals. A processed food is any food that has ben altered during preparation. This can be as simple as – • Freezing • Canning • Baking • Drying			
	Not all processed foods are unhealthy, but some can contain high levels of salt, sugar and fat.			
Activity 1 – Can you tell a processed	Activity Using the cards separate them out into processed and unprocessed (natural) foods. – Class Discussion, feedback from activity	Food Cards Processed V Natural Chart Process of Food Teacher Resource Notes		
food from a natural food?	Not all processed food is bad some need processing to make them safe, such as milk which must be pasteurised to remove bacteria.			
15mins	Other processed foods contain ingredients such as salt, sugar and fat, which are added to — • Change the flavour • Extend shelf life • Change the foods structure – e.g. cakes, bread This can increase the number of calories.			
	Using the food arrows and number circles, get the students to place them in order of the process and label each one with the correct number of ingredients each food has had added to be created.			
Activity 1 Extension – Sugar Levels in Food 5/10mins	Activity Add the sugar cube images to each food in the processes to show how much you think is included. You can then compare this to the Daily Recommended Allowance	Additional Sugar Images		
	for children and look at sugar levels in drinks as well as food. https://www.nhs.uk/change4life/food-facts/sugar https://www.nhs.uk/change4life/food-facts/healthier-snacks-for- kids/lower-sugar-drinks-for-kids-stop-tooth-decay			

Activity 2 – Healthy choices & labels 25mins	Activity Do you naturally make the healthy choice? Do you understand the labels on food to be able to make that choice for yourself?	Food Labels from Packaging /Food Label Examples
	When you buy processed foods, you have no control over the amount of sugar, salt or fats included but you can control what you buy.	
	Food Labels not only tell you what is included but also use colour coding – RED, AMBER, GREEN to show what areas it is higher or lower in. You should try to aim for as many greens as possible – Why? – Class Discussion	
	 Fats – heart disease, diabetes, increased weight, lack of confidence Sugar - lower immune system, acne, liver disease, lack of concentration, tooth decay Salt – higher blood pressure, dehydration, stomach damage 	
	Using the food label examples see if you can create a healthy 3 meal (1 day) menu –	
	BreakfastLunchDinner	
	Think about all the ingredients you would need to make these.	
	https://www.foodafactoflife.org.uk/search-results?q=food+labels	
Plenary	Has this changed your opinion of food?	
5mins	Do you think you would be able to education your parents to make changes so that you eat less unhealthy processed food in the future?	