SEAFOOD: FUEL FOR SUCCESSFUL LEARNING!

When kids eat at least two servings of fish, such as canned tuna, each week, **THE BENEFITS ARE BIG**:



BRAIN-BOOSTING

IT'S ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT TO EAT THE RECOMMENDED AMOUNT OF FISH UP UNTIL AGE 2 BECAUSE THIS IS THE MOST RAPID TIME OF DEVELOPMENT. After age 2, fish is still important for brain development. The omega-3 fatty acids found in fish are brain food for young brains. Canned tuna has 150–300 mg of EPA/DHA omega-3 fats per 4 ounce serving.



EYE WELLNESS

MOMS WHO EAT TWO SERVINGS OF FISH WEEKLY DURING PREGNANCY CAN IMPROVE THEIR BABY'S EYE HEALTH. While eating fish won't lead to "X-Ray Vision" it can help with the healthy development of young eyes.



HEALTHY HEARTS

EATING FISH HELPS PREVENT HEART DISEASE AND STROKE LATER IN LIFE. Developing the habit of eating fish early in life sets a child up for a lifelong healthful seafood habit.

Between the soft texture and the delicious taste, fish *could* be every kid's favorite food! **HERE ARE SOME TIPS FOR HELPING KIDS ENJOY FISH:**



LIGHTER TASTES

Start with milder white fish like tilapia or canned tuna, which can taste and look lighter than other oilier fish. Try mixing tuna with full-fat or reduced-fat plain Greek yogurt; the extra creaminess will make it taste less 'fishy' for a tuna fish sandwich—or dip served with tortilla chips.

RESOURCE: Pan White Fish Video



IT'S BURGER TIME

Like a crab cake, form a burger patty with chunks of cooked or canned salmon, along with grated cooked potatoes, chopped green onions and the 'pizza herb' dried oregano.

RESOURCE: Salmon Cake Video



ADD CRUNCH APPEAL

Kids are sure to love fish sticks. They can be prepared quickly and in a healthy way right at home.

RESOURCE: Fish Sticks Video



MAKE FISH FAMILIAR

Tacos are definitely kid-friendly. You can try shrimp or a white fish taco for your next meal. Add fat-free or low-fat cheese and sour cream—yummy! You're simply adding it to a dish they already love!

RESOURCE: Fish Taco Video

SOURCES:

Hibbeln JR, Davis JM, Steer C, Emmett P, Rogers I, Williams C, Golding J. Maternal seafood consumption in pregnancy and neurodevelopmental outcomes in childhood (ALSPAC study): an observational cohort study. Lancet. 2007; 369(9561):578-85.

FDA, Quantitative Assessment of the Net Effects on Fetal Neurodevelopment from Eating Commercial Fish (As Measured by IQ and also by Early Age Verbal Development in Children). www.fda.gov/Food/FoodbornelllnessContaminants/Metals/ucm393211.htm

