

# I Pledge Allegiance to My Health

This pledge can be read daily at school or at home with your family to remind you of all the ways to take care of your body!

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I pledge allegiance to my health,  
to not compare myself to anyone else.  
With fruits and vegetables I'll fill my tray  
and get nice and sweaty every day.  
I have only this body and this one heart  
so today's the day I'm going to start  
eating less chips and less sugary drinks  
and before I eat I'm going to think!



*I Pledge Allegiance to My Health* created by  
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Pumpkins

Winter Squash grow on a bush or a vine.

## Winter Squash

Nutrition Facts	
Serving Size: ½ cup cooked pumpkin (123g)	
Calories 24	Calories from Fat 0
% Daily Value	
Total Fat 0g	0%
Saturated Fat 0g	0%
Trans Fat 0g	
Cholesterol 0mg	0%
Sodium 1mg	0%
Total Carbohydrate 6g	2%
Dietary Fiber 1g	5%
Sugars 1g	
Protein 1g	
Vitamin A 122%	Calcium 2%
Vitamin C 10%	Iron 4%
Other nutrients: Potassium (8%), Riboflavin (6%)	
Source: <a href="http://www.nal.usda.gov/fnic/foodcomp/search/">www.nal.usda.gov/fnic/foodcomp/search/</a> NDB No: 11423	

- A ½ cup of pumpkin is an excellent source of vitamin A.
- For many centuries, people have carved “jack-o-lanterns” at Halloween. In Ireland and Scotland, they originally used potatoes and turnips. In England, they used beets. In the 18th and 19th centuries, American colonists found pumpkins to be the most ideal “vegetable” for carving jack-o-lanterns.
- Pumpkins are 90% water. Pumpkins can range in size from less than a pound to over 1,000 pounds.
- Winter squash include: butternut, hubbard, pumpkin, spaghetti, and acorn.



- Investigation: Are pumpkins fruits or vegetables?
- Read *Fruit is a Suitcase for Seeds!* at <http://bit.ly/URo0aC>

Botanically, scientists classify pumpkins as fruit because they have seeds. In the 1893 U.S. Supreme Court case of “Nix v. Hedden,” the pumpkin was declared a vegetable, along with cucumbers, tomatoes, beans, and peas. This came about because of a tariff law in 1887, which added a tax on vegetables but not fruits.

Pretend you are a scientist and you need to conduct experiments only on fruits. Using what you learned above, and the list provided on page 3, make a list of all the “vegetables” that should really be classified in the fruit group. Write an explanation using evidence from the reading to support your answer.

Jack-o-lantern Smash  
visit: <http://1.usa.gov/1mB1Djb>




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# Read It Before You Eat It

You know how books have a table of contents that explains what's inside? Or maybe you have a toy that came with a diagram that identified each small piece. Nutrition labels are sort of like that. They tell you what's inside the food you're eating and list its parts.

The Nutrition Facts food label gives you information about which nutrients are in the food. Your body needs the right combination of nutrients, like vitamins, to work properly and grow. Other information on the label is given in percentages. The percent daily value (% Daily Value or % DV) on a food label tells you how this food can help someone meet these daily goals. The % Daily Value shows whether the food is a high or low source of a nutrient.

How many servings are you eating?

## Macaroni and Cheese

Nutrition Facts	
Serving Size 1 cup (228g)	
Servings Per Container 2	
Amount Per Serving	
<b>Calories</b> 250	Calories from Fat 110
% Daily Value*	
<b>Total Fat</b> 12g	18%
Saturated Fat 3g	15%
<b>Cholesterol</b> 30mg	10%
<b>Sodium</b> 470mg	20%
<b>Total Carbohydrate</b> 31g	10%
Dietary Fiber 0g	0%
Sugars 5g	
<b>Protein</b> 5g	
Vitamin A 4%	Vitamin C 2%
Calcium 20%	Iron 4%

\* Percent Daily Values are based on a 2,000 calorie diet. Your daily values may be higher or lower depending on your calorie needs:

	Calories:	2,000	2,500
Total Fat	Less than	65g	80g
Sat Fat	Less than	20g	25g
Cholesterol	Less than	300mg	300mg
Sodium	Less than	2,400mg	2,400mg
Total Carbohydrate		300g	375g
Dietary Fiber		25g	30g

Get What You Need!

Get LESS  
5% or less is low  
20% or more is high

Get ENOUGH  
5% or less is low  
20% or more is high

- Visit <http://bit.ly/1fEL05D> to watch a video on Nutrition Facts Labels.

### Cereal Scavenger Hunt!

Find three different cereal food labels. You can collect these in different ways like bring the label in from home, take a picture using your phone, or visit a website. This can be done as a class, in a group, or individually. Transfer the information to the blank food labels below. Using evidence from your reading and the video, decide which cereal is the best choice for you and explain why you chose that cereal. Use a separate piece of paper.

Nutrition Facts			
Serving Size:		Calories from Fat	
Calories		Calories	Calories from Fat
% Daily Value			
Total Fat			%
Saturated Fat			%
Trans Fat			
Cholesterol			%
Sodium			%
Total Carbohydrate			%
Dietary Fiber			%
Sugars			
Protein			
Vitamin A	%	Calcium	%
Vitamin C	%	Iron	%

Nutrition Facts			
Serving Size:		Calories from Fat	
Calories		Calories	Calories from Fat
% Daily Value			
Total Fat			%
Saturated Fat			%
Trans Fat			
Cholesterol			%
Sodium			%
Total Carbohydrate			%
Dietary Fiber			%
Sugars			
Protein			
Vitamin A	%	Calcium	%
Vitamin C	%	Iron	%

Nutrition Facts			
Serving Size:		Calories from Fat	
Calories		Calories	Calories from Fat
% Daily Value			
Total Fat			%
Saturated Fat			%
Trans Fat			
Cholesterol			%
Sodium			%
Total Carbohydrate			%
Dietary Fiber			%
Sugars			
Protein			
Vitamin A	%	Calcium	%
Vitamin C	%	Iron	%