# FRUITS AND VEGETABLES Eat a rainbow!

## Why eat fruits and vegetables?

- Nutritious and delicious
- May reduce risk of stroke, heart disease, diabetes and some cancers
- Fill you up and help control weight
- Keep eyes and skin healthy
- Protect against high blood pressure and bone disease
- Important source of nutrients, such as potassium, dietary fiber, folic acid and vitamins A, C and E
- Low in calories, saturated fat and sodium

### **Different colors provide different** nutrients. Eat a rainbow of colors.



#### **Be adventurous.**

- Challenge yourself to try a new fruit or vegetable whenever possible.
- Prepare them in different ways. Try grilled, sautéed, steamed, roasted or stir-fried.
- Include them in soups, smoothies, salads and casseroles.
- Shredded or diced veggies, such as green peppers, zucchini or carrots, can give a boost to ground meat for tacos, spaghetti or sloppy Joes.

N1042 Revised 11/2024

**Pro tip:** Fruits and vegetables are tastier, more nutritious and cheaper when they are in season. Go to *seasonalandsimple.info* to learn what's in season now.



#### Save money.

- Canned and frozen are just as good as fresh, and they usually cost less.
- Buy small amounts of fresh produce often to reduce waste.
- Precut produce may save time, but it costs more.
- SNAP benefits are accepted at many farmers markets and are sometimes worth double. **Check your local market!**





Use fresh, frozen, canned or dried. They all count!



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Funded in part by USDA SNAP. For more information, call MU Extension's Show Me Nutrition line at 1-888-515-0016. Need help stretching your food dollars? Contact your local resource center or go online to: mydss.mo.gov/food-assistance