

# Fueling the Active Family

Lee Hyrkas, RD, CDCES, NASM-CPT

Registered Dietitian
Performance Nutrition Specialist



## Lee Hyrkas, RD, CDCES, Performance Nutrition Specialist

### **Credentials:**

- Registered Dietitian (RD)
- Certified Diabetes Educator
- Certified Personal Trainer (CPT)
  - National Academy of Sports Medicine

### **Education:**

- University Wisconsin Green Bay (UWGB)
  - Bachelor of Science in Human Biology
  - Emphasis: Nutritional Science/Dietetics

## **Contact Info:**

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# Simple Shopping List

### Lean Protein:

- Chicken breast or thighs
- Fish, tuna packets
- Eggs, egg whites
- Natural peanut butter
- Greek yogurt, cottage cheese cups
- Tofu, tempeh, TVP
- Beans (black, kidney, pinto, etc.)
- Nut & seed pouches
- Kefir, drinkable yogurt
- Dairy free milk or milk

### **Produce:**

- Fruits (berries, apples, citrus, grapes)
- Fresh vegetables (cucumbers, peppers)
- Steam bag vegetables
- Canned beans (black, pinto, etc.)
- Frozen fruit
- Sauerkraut

### **Quality Carbs:**

- Sprouted grain bread
- Wraps
- Oatmeal
- Sweet potatoes, squash
- Teff, amaranth, quinoa
- Canned beans (black, kidney, etc.)
- Protein noodles (Barilla®)
- Kodiak pancake mix
- Bean pastas (Banza®, lentil)
- Brown rice, wild rice

### **Healthy Fats:**

- Nuts & seeds
- Avocados (fresh or frozen)
- Salad dressing (yogurt based)
- Hummus or guacamole
- Eggs
- Natural nut butters



# **Snack Ideas**

### Pantry:

- Dried fruit or Crispy Fruit® or fruit pouches
  - Dates, figs, cherries, etc...
- That's it® bars
- Roasted chickpeas or edamame
- Nuts and seeds
- Nut butters
- Oatmeal packers (Better Oats®)
- Granola bars (Nature Valley®, Kodiak®)
- Energy bars (RX®, KIND®, Larabar®, etc.)
- Popcorn or popcorn chips
- Pretzels or crackers
- Fig bars
- Mini bagels or English muffins
- Whole grain tortillas
- Trail mix
- Root chips or bean chips
- Lean jerky or mini turkey sticks
- Dark chocolate
- Barbara's® cereal

### **Refrigerator:**

- Energy bites
- Greek yogurt or cottage cheese cups
- Kefir or drinkable yogurt
- String cheese or Laughing Cow® cheese
- Boiled eggs or egg bites
- Fruit and vegetables
- Hummus or guacamole cups
- P3® or Balanced Break® packs
- Uncrustable sandwiches
- Lean deli meat
- Protein drinks (Fairlife, etc...)

#### Freezer:

- Frozen fruit
- Peeled bananas or Banana Babies
- Frozen fruit bars
- Veggies Made Great muffins
- Kodiak® waffles
- Wyman's Just Fruit®



# **Protein Bar Better Bites**

- Quest® Bar
- gomacro® Bar
- RXBar®
- Built® Bar
- Kirkland® Protein Bar
- think!® Protein Bar
- Perfect® Bar



# **High Protein Snacks**

#### Snack 1:

- 1 cup cottage cheese
- 3-4 Tbsp. sunflower seeds or pepitas

#### Snack 2:

- 1 string cheese
- 1 stick lean jerky
- 20-30 pistachios

#### Snack 3:

- 1 hardboiled egg
- 1/3 cup dry roasted edamame

### **Snack 4: (Avocado Boat)**

- 1/2 large avocado
- 1 tuna packet mixed with salsa Add to the pitted avocado.

#### Snack 5:

- Bottled protein drink
- Piece of fruit or dish of berries







## **Additional Snacks**

### Idea 1:

- 1 banana
- 1 tortillas
- 1-2 tbsp. nut butter

### Idea 2:

- 1/3 cup dry roasted bean snacks
- 1 small package freeze dried fruit
- 3-5 cups popcorn

### Idea 3:

- 1/3 cup freeze dried fruit
- 1/4 cup pepitas or sunflower seeds

### Idea 4:

- 1 cup raw vegetables (peppers, carrots, etc.)
- 1/4 cup yogurt based salad dressing







# **Pre-Workout Snacking**

(~1-2 hours prior)

Carbohydrates: ~20-30 grams

Protein: ~10-20 grams

## Sample Snacks:

- Banana
- Greek yogurt cup with 2-3 Tbsp. granola
- 2 graham crackers or rice cakes with nut butter, glass of milk
- 1/2 English muffin with peanut butter
- 1 packet oatmeal with powdered peanut butter
- Small bowl of cereal with Fairlife® milk or bottled protein drink
- Cottage cheese cup with fruit
- 3-4 dates, string cheese





# **Energy Drink Alternatives**

Water Joe®

**Amino Energy®** 

**BUBBL'R®** 

Coffee or tea

**Liquid IV® Energy** 

**Extreme Sport Beans**®



**Crystal Light® with Caffeine** 



# **Post Workout Snacking**

Protein: ~20-30 grams

Carbohydrates: ~30-60 grams



## **Sample Snacks:**

- 2 hardboiled eggs, string cheese
- Greek yogurt cup with 2-3 Tbsp. granola, piece of fruit
- Protein drink (Premier®, Fairlife®, etc.), piece of fruit
- Eggs with English muffin an avocado
- Homemade smoothie (fruit, milk or yogurt, protein powder)
- Bowl of cottage cheese, fruit
- Chobani® drinkable yogurt or Kefir, 1/4 cup pepitas or sunflower seeds
- Protein bar



# **Meal Time Beverages**

### Milk

### Goat milk

### Dairy free milk

Ripple®, Silk® Protein, oat milk, etc...



Kefir or oat kefir

Kombucha tea

100% juice



### **Protein drink**

Fairlife®, Premier®, Quest®, Orgain®, etc...

# **Between Meal Beverages**

True Lemon® drink packets

LaCroix® water

Good Earth® tea

Stur® water enhancer

bubly® flavored water

**bia**®

**BUBBL'R®** 

**Hint®** 















# **Meal Planning Tips**

## Pick 1-2 days per week for meal prep.

Example: Sunday & Wednesday



## Perform marathon cooking.

Cook meats, vegetables and grains in large batches

## Pre-portion lunches into microwavable containers.

May reduce daily stress

## Keep track of easy meals.

 Try to come up with at least 2-3 go to meals for breakfast, lunch and dinner.





# **Utilize Your Tools Wisely**

•Grill for easy clean-up.

Microwave for side dishes.



Crock-pot for freezer bag meals.

Instant Pot® for last minute meals.

Multi-rack steamers for all-in-one cooking.





# **Recipe Websites**

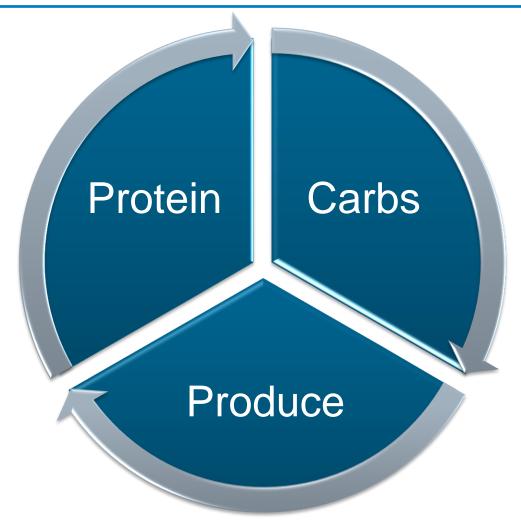
- Fitmencook.com
- Skinnytaste.com
- Minimalistbaker.com
- Theproteinchef.co
- Budgetbytes.com
- Chopchopfamily.org/recipes/







# **Building a Winning Meal**



# **Quality Protein**

(0.7-1 g/lb./day)

### Choose lean protein sources. (~20-30 grams per meal)

- Loin, tenderloin, round cuts meat
- Lean ground meat (90/10, 95/5)
- Skinless chicken or turkey
- Pork chops or pork loin
- Wild game
- Fish and seafood
- Eggs
- Beans, nuts, seeds, tofu, tempeh, TVP (vegetarian friendly)
- Dairy products (milk, yogurt, cheese)

### Non-lean meats. (low in protein)

Pepperoni, sausage, bacon, greasy meats







# **Quality Tested Protein Supplements**

- Optimum Nutrition® Gold Standard Whey Protein
- Ascent® Whey
- Muscle Milk® 100% Whey Protein
- Dymatize® 100% Whey Protein
- Vega Sport® or Orgain® Protein
- Tera's® Whey
- PB2® Protein Powder
- Quest® or Premier® Protein Powder









# **Time Saving Options**

Canned Chicken Breast

**Tune Pouches** 

**Rotisserie Chicken** 



Lightly Breaded or Non-Breaded Chicken Tenders

Tempeh or Ready to Eat Tofu (Tossables®)

**Eggs or Liquid Egg Whites** 

**Greek Yogurt or Cottage Cheese** 

## **Premium Carbs**

(1 - 3 g/lb./day)

- 1/2 small whole grain bagel or 1 mini bagel
- 6" Kodiak pancakes or Kodiak® waffles
- 1/2 cup cooked whole wheat or bean pastas
- 1 slice whole grain bread (≥ 2-3 g fiber)
- 1 slice sprouted grain bread or sourdough
- 1/2 cup cooked oatmeal or cream of wheat
- 1/2 cup cooked quinoa or teff
- 1/2 cup cooked brown rice or wild rice
- 2 whole grain rice cakes
- 5 whole grain crackers (Triscuit®, Mary's Gone Crackers®, etc.)
- 1/2 cup beans (black, pinto, etc.), lentils







# **Easy Additions**

**Kodiak® Pancakes or Waffles** 

Dave's Killer Bread® or Sprouted Grain Bread (Angelic®)

The Little Potato Company®

**Seeds of Change® Grain Pouches** 



Barilla Protein Plus® Noodles or Bean Pasta

**Canned Beans or Bagged Lentils** 



# **Easy Produce Options**

## Have more of these options around the house.

 Pre-cut veggies, fruit cups, halos, carrot sticks, bagged radishes, veggie or fruit trays, steam bags, etc...













## **Lower Fiber Produce**

### **Fruit**

- Applesauce
- Fruit cocktail
- Canned peaches
- Melon
- Grapefruit
- Pineapple
- Strawberries
- Dates
- Cuties
- Skinless fruit

### **Vegetables**

- Carrots
- Spinach
- Green beans
- Ice berg lettuce
- String beans
- Tomato sauce
- Vegetable juice



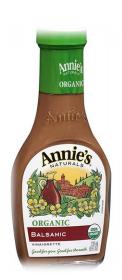
# Flavor Enhancers ©

## Have more of these options around the house.

 O'Dang®, Bolthouse®, Skinnygirl®, Annie's®, OPA®, hummus, guacamole













HUMMUS DRESSING

# **Healthy Fats**

(minimum 0.3 g/lb./day)

### **Nuts & Seeds**

- Almonds, walnuts, pistachios
- Peanut butter, almond butter
- Flax, hemp, chia, sunflower seeds



### Oils

 Extra virgin olive oil, avocado oil, peanut oil, canola oil, flax seed

### **Others**

 Avocado, fish, olives, yogurt based dressings, butter made with olive oil

# **Fun Meal Ideas**

**Protein Pancakes (Homemade or Kodiak)** 

Gyros (Chicken, Beef or Lamb)

**Homemade Mini Pizzas** 

**Skillet Meals** 

**Loaded Potato Bar** 

**Sheet Pan Chicken Sausage & Vegetables** 





## Sheet Pan Chicken Sausage

### Recipe

#### Ingredients:

- 16 oz. chicken or turkey sausage
- 2 sweet potatoes, diced into cubes
- 2 cups broccoli florets
- 1 red pepper, chopped
- 1 Tbsp. minced garlic
- 2 Tbsp. avocado oil
- 1 Tbsp. Italian or taco seasoning
- Sea salt, to taste
- Pepper, to taste



- Pre-heat oven to 400F.
- Line a sheet pan with parchment paper.
- Sliced sausage into 1" coins.
- Place sausage, diced sweet potato, broccoli, chopped red pepper into a medium sized mixing bowl.
- Drizzle ingredient with oil and add the garlic and spices.
- · Transfer the sausage and vegetables to the sheet pan.
- Bake for 20 minutes. Stir the ingredients halfway through cooking.

Recipe Info:

Serves ~4



# **Egg Roll Stir-Fry**

### Recipe

#### Ingredients:

- 1 lb. lean ground beef or chicken (optional)
- 14 oz. package coleslaw
- 1/2 large yellow onion, diced
- 5-6 green onion, diced
- . 3-4 Tbsp. sesame seeds, toasted or non-toasted
- 1 tsp. ground ginger
- 2 Tbsp. rice vinegar
- 4-5 Tbsp. low sodium soy sauce or Braag Liquid Aminos
- 1 2 tsp. sriracha sauce
- 4-5 cloves garlic, minced
- Black pepper, to taste
- 2-3 Tbsp. sesame seed oil
- 1 package frozen cauliflower rice

#### Directions:

- Heat sesame seed oil in a large pan over medium-high heat.
   Add the yellow onion and sauté until caramelized.
- Microwave cauliflower rice for 3 minutes. Pour cauliflower rice into the pan.
- Add the remaining ingredients, except for the green onions.
   Sauté until cabbage is tender. Add the green onion and remove pan from the heat source.
- If you would like to add meat to the stir-fry, add 1 lb. of lean ground chicken, pork or beef when you sauté the onion.



# **Pesto Pizza**

### Recipe

### Ingredients:

- Joseph Lavash bread or gyro pita
- Pesto sauce
- · Red onion, diced
- Fresh mozzarella cheese, sliced
- Roma tomatoes, sliced
- Yellow or orange pepper, diced
- Mushrooms, sliced
- Jarred artichoke hearts, chopped
- · Pepper, to taste



#### Directions:

- Preheat oven to 350F.
- Place lavash wrap on a pizza pan and put in the oven for ~5
  minutes, or until it begins to turn golden brown. Take out of the
  oven, and top with light coating of pesto sauce. Add the cheese,
  vegetables and tomato slices. Season with pepper.
- Bake for an additional 6-8 minutes. Enjoy!

# **Crock-Pot Ideas**

## **Chicken or Bean Tortellini Soup**

**Quinoa Enchilada** 

Tacos

**Balsamic Beef Roast** 

**Peanut Butter Pork Tenderloin** 

**Peach French Toast** 







# **Crock-Pot Tips**

### **Never cook from frozen!**

Thaw freezer meals & meats prior

## Cook on low if using dairy products.

- Cream, cheese, milk, sour cream, etc...
- Prevents dairy products from curdling

## Sauté or grill veggies for extra flavor.

Onions, peppers, mushrooms, etc...

### Don't over cook chicken.

- 5-6 hours on low.
- Consider programmable crock-pot.







### **Spicy Peanut Butter Pork**

### Recipe

#### Ingredients:

- 1.5 lb. pork tenderloin
- 1/4 cup natural crunchy peanut butter (Save until the end.)
- 1/4 cup Bragg's liquid amino or low sodium soy sauce
- 1/2 cup low sodium beef or chicken stock
- 1/4 or 1/2 tsp. Crushed red pepper flakes
- 2 Tbsp. Rice vinegar
- 2 or 3 garlic cloves, minced
- 1/4 cup chicken stock
- Black pepper, to taste
- 1 large yellow onion, diced
- 1 red pepper, diced (optional)
- 1 Tbsp. Avocado oil



#### Directions:

- Preheat a medium skillet over medium-high heat. Add the avocado oil and onion.
   Sauté onion until caramelized.
- Add the pork, caramelized onion, chicken stock, soy sauce, vinegar, garlic, pepper flakes, red pepper, and black pepper to a large zip lock bag. Mix well.
- Allow pork to marinate for at least 6 hours or overnight.
- Place pork and marinade into a crock-pot and cook on low for 6 hours. Add the peanut before serving. Enjoy!
- If using an Instant Pot, cook on high pressure for 28 minutes. Allow to naturally release for 10 minutes.

Serves ~4-5

### Quinoa Enchilada Casserole

#### Recipe

#### Ingredients:

- 2 (15 oz.) can black beans, drained and rinsed
- 1 cup frozen corn, thawed
- 2 (10 oz.) cans mild or medium red enchilada sauce, divided
- 1 yellow onion, diced
- 1 yellow pepper, diced
- 1 red pepper, diced
- 1 (10 oz.) can diced fire roasted tomatoes and green chiles
- 1 cup uncooked quinoa
- 1/2 cup vegetable broth
- 4 oz. Neufchatel cream cheese
- 3/4 1 cup reduced-fat shredded cheese
- 1 tsp. garlic powder
- 1 tsp. cumin
- 1-2 tsp. chili powder
- Dash of dried cilantro
- Pepper to taste
- · 1 Tbsp. avocado oil or canola oil
- · Toppings (optional): chopped cilantro, diced tomatoes, diced avocado, Greek yogurt

#### Directions:

- Preheat a medium skillet over medium-high heat. Add the avocado oil and onion.
   Sauté onion until caramelized.
- Add the diced peppers and garlic to the skillet. Sauté until peppers are soft. Transfer to the crock pot.
- Add the beans, one can of enchilada sauce, corn, cream cheese, broth, diced tomatoes with green chiles, quinoa and spices to the crock pot. Mix well.
- Add the second can of enchilada sauce.
- Top with shredded cheese and set the crock pot to low. Cook for 6-7 hours. Enjoy!



Serves ~5-6

## **Tortellini Soup**

### Recipe

#### Ingredients:

- 6-7 oups low-sodium ohloken or vegetable stook
- 1 package/bag fortellini
- 1 (28 oz.) fire roasted orushed tomatoes
- 2 (15 oz.) oans black beans, drained and rinsed
- 1 large yellow onlon, dioed
- 2-3 stalks oelery, dioed
- 2 large carrots, diced
- 3-4 Thep, minoed garilo
- 1-2 tsp. dried oregano
- 1-2 tsp. dried basil
- 1/2 top, sea sait
- Black pepper to taste
- 1-2 Tbsp. red wine vinegar
- 1 Tbsp. oil

#### Directions:

- Heat 1 thep, oil in a skillet or medium-high heat. Saute the onion until caramelized. Add the garlic when the onion is almost caramelized. Saute for another minute.
- Spray the incide of a crook-pot with non-ctick cooking spray. Transfer the onion and garlio to the crook-pot
- Add vegetable broth, tortellini, tomatoes, beans, celery, carrots, vinegar, and spices to the crock-pot. Mix well.
- Set orook-pot on low and allow soup to cook for -8-8 hours.

#### Recipe info:

Serves -6-8



# Casserole Ideas

**Taco Casserole** 

**Stir-Fry Casserole** 

Cowboy Tuna Noodle Casserole (cold dish)

Grape and Broccoli Casserole (cold dish)

**Veggie Tot Casserole** 

Enchiladas (shrimp, chicken, beef)







### **Enchiladas**

### Recipe

#### Ingredients:

- 12-16 oz. diced chicken or shredded rotisserie chicken
- · 1 (15 oz.) can black beans, drained and rinsed
- 1 (28 oz.) can mild or medium red enchilada sauce, divided
- 4.5 oz. can diced green chiles, drain excess liquid
- 1/2 yellow onion, diced
- 1 red pepper, diced
- · 6 oz. Neufchatel cream cheese
- 2 tsp. garlic powder
- 2 tsp. chili powder
- 1 tsp. cumin
- 1 tsp. oregano
- Pepper to taste
- 1 Tbsp. avocado oil or canola oil
- · 1 cup shredded cheese
- Flour tortillas
- Toppings (optional): chopped cilantro, diced tomatoes, salsa, diced avocado, Greek yogurt

#### Directions:

- Preheat a medium skillet over medium-high heat. Add the avocado oil, red pepper and onion. Sauté onion until caramelized.
- Transfer the onion and pepper mixture to a medium mixing bowl.
- Add the chicken, cream cheese, beans, spices, 1/2 cup shredded cheese, green chiles and 1/2 cup enchilada sauce to the mixing bowl. Mix well.
- Spread a light layer of enchilada sauce on the bottom of a large casserole dish. Save the rest of the enchilada sauce for on top of the enchiladas.
- Fill tortillas with the enchilada mixture. Fold the wraps and place into the casserole dish. Once the dish is full, pour the remaining sauce over the enchiladas.
- Top 1/2 cup shredded cheese. Bake at 350F for ~25 minutes. Enjoy!



# **Asian Casserole**

## Recipe

#### Ingredients:

- 1 or 1.5 lb. lean ground beef or pork
- 2 (1 lb.) frozen stir-fry veggies
- 1 can bamboo shoots, drained
- 1 can water chestnuts, drained and sliced
- 1 can baby corn, drained
- 1/2 large vellow onion, diced
- 1/2 container mini Bella mushrooms, sliced
- 1 can healthy request cream of chicken soup (You could use cream of mushroom instead.)
- 1 package cauliflower rice medley
- 1/4 cup Braags liquid aminos or coconut aminos
- 2 garlic cloves, minced
- Black pepper to taste

#### Directions:

- Preheat large skillet over medium-high heat. Add 1 Tbsp. Oil to the pan.
- Sauté the mushrooms and onions until onions are caramelized. Transfer to a large mixing bowl.
- Microwave cauliflower rice for 3 minutes. Add to the mixing bowl.
- Add the ground meat and garlic to the pan and cook until meat is browned. Transfer to the large mixing bowl.
- Add the frozen stir-fry veggies to the pan and sauté until soft. Transfer to the bowl.
- Add the baby corn, bamboo shoots, water chestnuts, cream of chicken soup, soy sauce and black pepper to the bowl. Mix well.
- Preheat oven 350F. Transfer ingredient to a large casserole dish. Bake for 20 minutes. Enjoy!

#### Recipe Info:

Serves ~5-7



# **Cowboy Tuna Salad**

## Recipe

### Ingredients:

- · 2 15 oz. can black beans, drained and rinsed
- 2 12 oz. cans albacore tuna, drained
- 2 10 oz. cans Rotel diced tomatoes with
- green chilies, drain excess liquid
- 1/2 or 3/4 box barilla protein plus pasta, boiled and water drained
- 1 large orange or red pepper, diced
- 1 cup frozen corn, thawed
- 3 Tbsp. Dried chopped onions (found in the seasoning aisle)
- 1/3 cup canola or avocado oil
- 1/2 cup apple cider vinegar
- 2 Tbsp. Lemon juice
- 3 Tbsp. Honey or maple syrup
- 1/2 tsp. Salt
- Pepper, to taste

#### Directions:

- Mix all ingredients in a large mixing bowl.
- Transfer to a storage container that has a lid.
- Allow to sit for at least 5-6 hours in the fridge.

#### Recipe Info:

Serves ~6-8



# **Dessert Ideas**

## **Greek Yogurt Fruit Bars**

**Banana Ice Cream** 

**Protein Fluff** 

**Chia Pudding** 

**Sweet Potato Brownies** 

**Avocado Pudding** 

**Protein Jell-O** 



# Joker Jell-O<sub>®</sub>

## Recipe

## Ingredients:

- 4 cups water
- 2 large boxes (0.6 oz.) sugar-free lime Jell-O®
- 2 cups unsweetened vanilla almond milk
- 1.5 or 2 scoops protein powder (vanilla, chocolate or unflavored)

#### **Directions:**

- Heat water in a medium sized sauce pan until it reaches a boil.
- Remove from the heat source and stir-in the Jell-O® powder.
- Stir continuously for 2 minutes.
- . Mix together the protein powder with almond milk in a shaker cup.
- Pour the protein mixture into the Jell-O® and mix well.
- Transfer the Jell-O® to a large casserole dish.
- Allow to chill in the refrigerator for at least 3-4 hours.

#### **Nutritional Information:**

Entire Recipe: ~400 calories, 64 g protein

# **Pistachio Pudding**

## Recipe

## Ingredients:

- 10 oz. container Truwhip Topping
- 2 (1 oz.) boxes sugar-free pistachio pudding
- 24 oz. container low-fat cottage cheese
- 20 oz. can crushed pineapple
- 1-2 cups pitted cherries, sliced in half
- 15 oz. can mandarin orange, drain excess liquid

#### Directions:

- Place all ingredients into a large mixing bowl. Mix well.
- Allow pudding mixture to chill in the fridge for at least 4-6 hours before serving.

#### **Portion Size:**

~3/4 cup

# **Chocolate Chia Pudding**

## Recipe

## Ingredients:

- 2 cups milk or nut milk
- 1/2 cup chia seeds
- 1/2 or 1 tsp. pure vanilla extract
- 2 Tbsp. maple syrup or honey
- 8-10 pitted dates
- 3 Tbsp. cocoa powder
- 1/4 tsp. cinnamon (optional)

#### Directions:

- Place all ingredients into a blender.
- Blend until ingredients are well mixed.
- Allow mixture to chill in the fridge for at least 4 hours before serving.

### Portion Size:

~1/2 cup



# Recipe Index





## **Protein Pancakes**

## Recipe

#### Ingredients:

- 1/4 cup uncooked oatmeal
- 1 egg or 1/2 cup egg whites
- 1/4 cup cottage cheese or yogurt
- 1/2 scoop vanilla or chocolate protein powder
- 1/2 1 tsp. cinnamon

#### **Directions:**

- Place all ingredients into a blender or food processor.
- Blend until mixture forms a smooth batter. If batter is too thick, add ~1 Tbsp. water.
- Spray a frying pan with non-stick cooking spray. Preheat pan on medium-low heat for ~3-5 minutes.
- Take ~1/2 cup portions of the pancake batter and drop into the frying pan. Cook for ~2-3 minutes or until edges are golden brown. Flip pancake and cook for additional ~1 minute or until edges are golden brown

#### Nutrition: (whole recipe)

~250 calories, 9 g fat, 18 g carbohydrate, 30 g protein

#### Optional Toppings:

- Berries (blueberries, strawberries, etc.)
- Light syrup or sugar-free syrup
- Pure maple syrup or honey
- Applesauce
- Greek yogurt or cottage cheese
- Nuts or seeds
- Peanut butter or almond butter



## **Crockpot French Toast**

## Recipe

#### Ingredients:

- 9 slices whole grain bread
- 3 eggs
- 1.5 cups milk or milk alternative
- 1 tsp. vanilla extract
- 1/2 tsp. cinnamon
- Dash of sea salt

#### Filling:

- 3 cups sliced peaches
- 1 Tbsp. Honey or maple syrup
- 1 tsp. cinnamon

#### Directions:

- Spray crockpot with non-stick cooking spray or use crockpot liners for easy cleanup.
- In a small bowl, mix together the filling ingredients.
- Slice the bread into 4 triangles per slice.
- Layer some of the bread on the bottom of the crockpot. Add 1/4 of the peach filling over the bread. Repeat this process until you have three layers of bread. Add the remaining peach filling on top.
- Whisk together eggs, milk, cinnamon and vanilla extract. Pour egg mixture over the bread and peach filling.
- Set crockpot to low and cook for 4 hours or until the bread has soaked up the liquids.

#### **Optional Toppings:**

- Nuts or seeds
- Greek yogurt or cottage cheese



# **Slow Cooker Tacos**

#### Recipe

#### Ingredients:

\*4-5 chicken breast, thawed

\*1/2 yellow onion, diced

\*14.5 oz. can diced tomatoes (any variety)

\*4.5 oz. can diced green chiles

\*1/2 cup fresh cilantro or 2.5 Tbsp. dried cilantro

\*3 Tbsp. homemade taco seasoning or 1 store packet



\*Spray a slow cooker pot with non-stick cooking spray. Sauté onion in a small pan with 1 tbsp. oil. Transfer sautéed onion to the slow cooker. Place chicken into the slow cooker. Coat chicken breast with taco seasoning.

\*Add the tomatoes and green chiles to the slow cooker.

\*Cook on low for 6-7 hours. Take chicken out and shred using two forks. Put shredded chicken back into the slower cooker and mix well. Add the fresh cilantro. Enjoy!

Recipe Info:

Serves ~4-5



## **Balsamic Beef Roast**

## Recipe

#### Ingredients:

- 2-3 lb. beef roast
- 1/2 cup balsamic vinegar
- 1 medium yellow onion, diced
- 2-3 Tbsp. honey or maple syrup
- 2-3 Tbsp. Worcestershire sauce
- 1/2 cup low-sodium beef stock
- 3-4 cloves garlic, minced
- Black pepper to taste
- 1/4 tsp. cayenne pepper (optional)
- 1 Tbsp. avocado or canola oil



#### Directions:

- Preheat a medium skillet over medium-high heat. Add the avocado oil and onion. Sauté onion until caramelized. Transfer to the crock pot.
- Place beef into a crock pot. Add remaining ingredients.
- Cook on low for 6-7 hours. Take beef out and shred using two forks. place back into the crock pot and allow to cook for an additional 30 minutes.

#### Recipe Info:

Serves ~5-6

# Veggie Tot Casserole

### Recipe

#### ingredients:

- 1 package Green Glant® veggle tots
- 1 package Green Glant® riced caultflower
- 1 lb. lean ground beef
- 1 medium yellow onlon, dloed
- 3 stalks oelery, dloed
- 1 small container portobello mushrooms, dioed
- 1 oup frozen green beans, thawed
- 1 oup frozen peas and carrots, thawed
- 3/4 oup sweet oorn
- 2 tsp. powdered garllo
- 2 Tbsp. Woroestershire sauce
- 3/4 oup reduced fat shredded cheese
- 10 oz. oan healthy request oream of celery soup Black pepper - to taste

#### Directions:

- Sauté onion, celery and mushrooms until soft. Drain excess liquid. Transfer to a mixing bowl.
- Brown the ground meat. Transfer to mixing bowl.
- Thaw the frozen veggles and add to the mixing bowl.
- Heat frozen oauliflower rice in the microwave for 3 minutes.
   Add to the mixing bowl.
- Add Wordestershire saude, garlio, pepper and dream of delery soup. Mix well. Transfer to a desserole dish. Top with shredded cheese. Place veggle tots over the top of the desserole.
- Bake at 376F for 40-45 minutes. Enjoy!

#### Recipe Info:

Serves -5.8



## **Easy Taco Casserole**

#### Recipe

#### Ingredients:

- 1 lb. lean ground beef or turkey (90/10)
- 10 oz. can diced green chilies and tomatoes
- 4.5 oz. can diced green chilies
- 15 oz. can black beans rinse and drained
- 15 oz. can kidney beans rinse and drained
- 1/2 cup frozen sweet corn thawed
- 20-25 Beanito® chips or tortilla chips bottom layer for the casserole
- 3/4 cup shredded Mexican cheese or cheddar cheese
- ~2.5 Tbsp. homemade taco seasoning or 1 packet Mrs. Dash taco seasoning mix

#### Optional Sides/Toppings:

- Plain Greek yogurt Replacement for sour cream.
- Guacamole
- Salsa
- Salad or roasted vegetables
- Diced green onion

#### Directions:

- Pre-heat oven to 350°F
- Spray a large casserole dish with non-stick cooking spray. Layer the bottom of the casserole dish with Beanito® chips.
- Pre-heat a non-stick skillet on medium high heat. Spray skillet with non-stick cooking spray.
- Add lean ground meat to the skillet and dice into small pieces. Drain excess grease as the meat cooks. Cook until the meat is browned.
- Add taco seasoning or Mrs. Dash taco seasoning mix to the meat and mix well.
- Toss in the beans, tomatoes, green chilies, corn and 1/4 cup of shredded cheese.
   Stir until ingredients are combined. Reduce heat to medium-low and allow the mixture to cook on the stovetop for a few minutes.
- Transfer skillet ingredients into a large casserole dish. Sprinkle the remaining shredded cheese evenly over the top of the casserole.
- Bake at 350°F for ~20 minutes.

Serves ~5-6 (~372 calories, 13.5 g fat, 33 g carbs, 27 g protein)



# **Broccoli Salad**

## Recipe

#### Ingredients:

- 1 cup chopped pecans
- 1 lb. broccoli, cut broccoli florets away from the stem
- 1/2 box barilla protein plus farfalle pasta, boiled and water drained
- 1 cup whole milk Greek yogurt
- 2-3 Tbsp. sugar or sugar substitute or maple syrup
- 1/3 cup diced red onion
- 1/3 1/2 cup red wine vinegar
- 2 cups red grapes, halved
- 6-7 slices cooked turkey bacon or center cut bacon, crumbled
- 1/2 tsp. Salt
- Pepper, to taste

#### Directions:

- Whisk together Greek yogurt with sugar, red wine vinegar, salt and pepper.
- Add the remaining ingredients to a large mixing bowl. Pour the yogurt dressing over the ingredients and mix well.
- Allow to chill in the fridge for 4-5 hours before serving.

#### Recipe Info:

Serves ~6-8



# **Sweet Potato Brownies**

### Recipe:

- 1 medium sweet potato cooked and skin removed
- 1/2 ripe avocado, peel removed
- 3 Tbsp. cocoa powder
- 3 Tbsp. maple syrup
- 1/4 tsp. sea salt
- 1.5 tsp. baking soda
- 1/2 cup milk or milk alternative
- 1/2 cup natural peanut butter
- 1/2 cup semi-sweet or dark chocolate chips
- 2 tsp pure vanilla
- 1/4 cup uncooked oatmeal

#### Directions:

- Pre-heat oven to 350 degrees. Spray 8X8 baking pan with non-stick cooking spray
- Combine all ingredients except for the chocolate chips into a food processor or blender. Blend until batter is smooth.
- Fold in the chocolate chips.
- Spread the batter into the 8x8 baking pan.
- Bake for 20-25 minutes. Allow to cool for ~10-20 minutes before cutting.

#### Yield:

16 bars

#### Nutrition: (whole recipe)

~120 calories per bar

