

Doctor in the Kitchen®

by Laurence M. Hursh, M.D. Consultant, National Dairy Council

Back To School

So summer is just about over, the kids are back in school, and while we don't like to admit it, it's possible that some children are eating better than they did at home.

If this is so, it is for one of two reasons: Either the child's family cannot afford sufficient food, or ignorance--nutritional ignorance--is depriving that family of adequate meals. Such ignorance can and does exist at all economic levels-so it's not always just a matter of money.

The Value of School Lunch

But is your child is in a school that serves school lunch you have a lot joing for you. And in recent years great effort has been made to extend the school lunch program to schools that do not have facilities for preparing lunches. Even breakfast programs have been put in operation.

More and more schools are

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If the dryer is used to dry unlaundered clothing such as children's snow pants between outings, wipe the drum with a sudsy sponge or cloth and wipe with a clean one to remove any dirt before clean laundry is put into the machine. Wipe door and opening occasionally.

pre-prepared meals are brought in. And school feeding programs in-creasingly provide that children receive meals without discrimination when they cannot afford to pay for

being served. Airline-style,

A bonus on school breakfast and school lunch programs is that besides giving the child a healthful meal, the programs are a practical demonstration for

the pupil of the foods that make up a good meal.

When this experience is coupled with modern nutrition education in the classroom there is promise that we are raising a generation of Americans who will know how to eat more wisely than their parents.

Nutrition is increasingly being taught in the schools in a manner to excite real interest and create motivation. It used to be a sort of dull subject, full of "this-is-good-for-you" stuff. Not today. Nutrition is now taught in special units of study that are fun, relevant, and that lead to including nutrition in teaching

mathematics, geography, social studies and particularly in helping children arrive at values that will guide them throughout their

Taking Lunch To School If you or your children prefer, for one reason or another, that they take their lunch to school, it isn't difficult to give them a balanced meal. The fourfood-group formula will do it. A sandwich or two can easily provide your child with meat, cheese, or, say, egg salad and that will give him the meat and breads and cereals groups.

To help complete the meal, give your child some kind of fruit, and-or celery or carrot sticks, or vegetable soup in a thermos. If your girls want to get fancy, make a small salad and put it in a plastic container. Then have your children buy milk at school.

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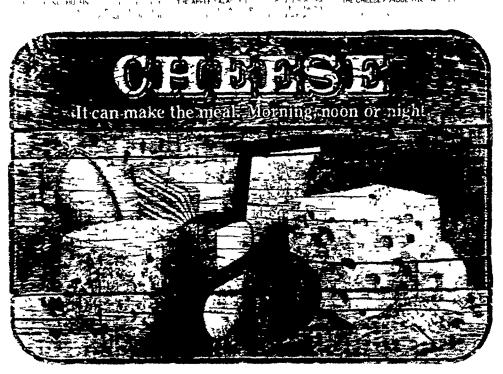
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