**Wellness Articles**

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If you would like to be added to the distribution list for these articles, please email: Rebecca.johnson2@albertahealthservices.ca. You will receive a monthly email containing articles for the upcoming four weeks.

An archive of past wellness articles is available at <http://www.albertahealthservices.ca/9966.asp>

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**Healthy celebrations for young children**

It’s easy to make celebrations with children fun and healthy. Here are a few tips on how you can make healthy foods the easy choice at holiday celebrations, birthday parties and special events. For more ideas, go to healthyeatingstartshere.ca.

**Try these party ideas**

* Decorate using themes or colours.
* Make crafts or play party games.
* Have a theme-based scavenger hunt.
* Sing special songs or read books about your theme.
* On birthdays, have the birthday child be your “special helper” for the day.

**Serve fun and healthy foods**

* Serve a vegetable or fruit tray with yogurt dip. Arrange the fruit and vegetables in fun shapes or colour-themed trays.
* Plan a “build your own” party. Let each child build their own sandwich, pizza, taco, salad or yogurt parfait from a variety of healthy ingredients.
* Help children make a “Friendship Fruit Salad.” Each child can choose a different fruit to add to the salad. Stir it gently and serve.
* Add chunks of melon, slices of citrus fruit or cucumber to a pitcher of water. Call it “Wacky Water” and offer it to party guests to drink.

Source: ahs.ca