## NUTRITION <br> ABE LEVELS 5 \& 6

## TEACHER'S EDITION



Developed by the Mayor's Office of Adult Education

## 4

## All Teacher's Editions include:

- Note to the Teacher
- "FAQs" to better help you field common health-related questions
- Materials, Vocabulary and NRS Descriptors for your specific level
- Lesson Outline
- Teacher's Workbook with embedded directions and answers to questions
- Student Handouts
- Supplemental Authentic Materials
- Teacher Survey
are transferable to solid foods as well - it is the

Remember the old saying, you are what you eat? Guess what--you are what you drink, too! That's why we've prepared this lesson: to help your students decode nutrition labels, compare healthy and unhealthy options, and make informed choices in the corner grocery store - while raising awareness of the nutritional content of common beverages.

In trying to improve nutrition, we often focus on solid foods. However, drinks have more calories, more sugar, and fewer nutrients than you might think. For example, a person who drinks a can of regular soda every day consumes 65 pounds of sugar in the course of a year and enough calories to add 15 pounds to their weight without any redeeming nutritional value! Soda may be convenient, but all this extra sugar and excess calories contribute to the soaring rates of diabetes and obesity in New York City. Did you know that more than 700,000 New Yorkers now have diabetes? And over half of NYC adults are overweight or obese, and therefore, at higher risk for chronic disease?

Thankfully, we can do something about this: changing drinking habits is easier than changing your entire diet. There are many beverage options. An important health literacy skill is the ability to recognize which choices are better for your health and which choices are worse. Thanks to teachers like you, students can learn how to decode a "Nutrition Facts" label. Once the label is decoded, students can make informed decisions about the beverages they choose to buy based on the amount of sugar, calories, fats, and nutrients. The skills they develop in decoding drink labels
same nutrition label.

This model lesson plan has been developed in conjunction with the City's public health campaign designed to persuade corner grocery stores (i.e., "bodegas") to carry 1\% milk, a healthier option than whole or $2 \%$ milk. The Health Department's key strategy is to mobilize consumer demand for healthier options. The lesson assumes that your students can be leaders in this campaign by preparing them for a field trip to the nearest corner store ("bodega") to compare "Nutrition Facts" labels on the drinks in stock and, later, to deliver postcards asking bodega owners to carry $1 \%$ milk.

The three key messages that your students need to know by the end of the lesson are:

## 1. "Nutrition Facts" labels give you the information you need to choose

healthier drinks (and foods).
2. Unhealthy drinks have a lot of calories, fats, and sugars. Switching from unhealthy to healthier drinks can improve your health!
3. You can influence what gets sold in your local stores! Speak up and let the store owner know that you want to buy healthy drinks!

Along the way, you will help your students:

1. Comprehend, explain, and analyze information from primary source material
2. Write a basic essay
3. Perform basic operations on percents

This lesson is broken up into 2-hour sessions that will require 2 consecutive days of class.
Day 1 will consist of activities that will build on your students' existing knowledge of proper nutrition. While many of your students may have a healthy diet, many of them may need to work on expressing why they think a food is healthy or unhealthy. This will be followed by a hands-on activity where your students will see how much sugar is in a 20 fluid-ounce Coca-Cola bottle. Following this, your students will compare different beverage labels, decide whether a drink is unhealthy or healthier, and explain their reasoning using information from the label. By the end of class your students will be able to distinguish between unhealthy and healthier drinks and explain how they came to their decisions.

Day 2 of the lesson provides an opportunity for your students to turn their knowledge into action. In order to prepare for your class field-trip to a nearby corner grocery store, it is important that you identify the appropriate store and let the store managers know about your visit in advance. The purpose of this field trip is to get your students reading labels in authentic environments and having informed conversations about the labels and reflecting on the types of drinks that are sold in their neighborhood. Afterwards, you will return to the classroom and share your findings. Did the bodega sell healthy drinks? How could you encourage them to sell more? The final activity - signing a postcard to persuade grocery stores to stock $1 \%$ milk -- introduces the concept of consumer demand and joins your students to the citywide public health campaign (called Healthy Bodegas Initiative).

This lesson is not meant to make judgments about which drinks are healthy or unhealthy. Nor is it meant to provide comprehensive nutrition advice. Instead, it is designed to help your students learn to critically read a food label and decide on their own whether or not a drink is healthy for them. In addition, the lesson, along with the Healthy Bodegas Initiative activates your students as conscientious consumers and encourages positive civic participation.

Yours,


Shannon Allen
Mayor's Office of Adult Education

There are studies that found negative consequences of very large quantities of sweeteners administered to laboratory rats. But, we don't know if the findings are applicable to humans, and if they were, what the equivalent amount of artificial sweetener would be.

On the other hand, there is evidence that sugar and calories in regular soda and many so-called "fruit drinks" contribute to the obesity epidemic and increase people's risk for diabetes and other chronic diseases.

## But fruit drinks are always healthy, right?

No! There are many fruit drinks and/ or fruit juices that do not contain any or very little fruit juice. It is important to look at the nutrition label to see if it is made completely ( $100 \%$ ) of fruit juice or not. Also, many fruit juices have added sugars and can be very high in calories whether or not they are 100\% juice. Surprisingly, some juices have as much added sugars as soda! Some companies advertise their juice by showing fruit on the container even if their product has little or no fruit juice in it.

## How much sugar is too much sugar?

It is hard to say precisely, but clearly less sugar is better. The federal dietary guidelines do not include a daily recommended maximum amount of sugar. The more calories someone gets from sugar, the less well nourished they are likely to be. Some nutrition experts have suggested that you try to avoid
foods or drinks with more than 15 grams of sugar per serving. You can use the Nutrition Facts to compare foods and drinks to find the one with less sugar.

> I have been drinking whole milk all my life and I'm just fine. Are you saying that whole milk is unhealthy?

Whole milk should be known as "full fat" milk. Any serving size of whole milk contains almost 4\% fat. The City Health Department does not recommend whole milk for people over the age of two years. Schools in New York and around the country no longer serve whole milk.
$1 \%$ and $2 \%$ milk (together called low-fat) and skim milk ( $0 \%$ or fat-free) all have the same amount of nutrition and vitamins as whole milk. But, they have fewer calories and are therefore healthier. If you drink whole milk, switching to low-fat milk will improve your health.

## I buy milk in a can. How is that different from whole milk?

Condensed or evaporated milk is richer and creamier than whole milk. But, it has more calories and twice as much fat as whole milk. If you really want to buy canned milk, buy the reduced-fat or lowfat version.

## What about tea? Is tea healthy?

You have to read the Nutrition Facts label. Some iced teas that you buy in the
store have a lot of added sugar. Many people drink hot tea with milk and sugar. This kind of tea can be made healthier by limiting the sugar and switching to lowfat or fat-free milk.

## Do drinks contain the same kind of carbohydrates as food and are they bad for me?

When it comes to beverages, carbohydrate is another word for sugar. Drinks with high carbohydrates have a lot of sugar. Read the Nutrition Facts to find out how many carbohydrates a beverage has. In solid foods, there are different kinds of carbohydrates. Good carbohydrates are found in whole grain breads, fruits, and vegetables. They contain vitamins, minerals, and fibers that are good for your body. Bad carbohydrates come from white bread, cake, and candy. They contain lots of sugars and fats that are bad for your heart and are especially bad if you have diabetes.

## Which is the healthiest beverage?

Water! It has no calories, no sugar, no fat and when you drink it from the tap, it is free. New York City tap water is safe and clean to drink. It meets state and national standards for healthy drinking water and does not need to be filtered. Drinking lots of water every day is part of a healthy diet. Switching from another beverage to water is a simple, yet effective, way to lower your sugar and calorie intake. You save money, too!

## MATERIALS

- At least two empty 20 fluid-ounce bottles of Coca-Cola
- Funnel (May be made of scrap paper)
- Teaspoons
- Measuring cup
- Table sugar
- Student handouts

| VOCABL |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| Activity 1 | Healthy, unhealthy, healthier, healthiest |
| Activity 2 | Estimate, proportions |
| Activity 3 | Nutrition, facts, origins, significant, alter, serving size, calories, percent, total fat, sugar |
| ACTIVITY 4 | Whole, 1\%, skim |
| Activity 5 | Analyze, alternatives |
| Activity 6 | Countering, weaning, gold standard, palatable, artificially sweetened, fiber, quenching |
| Activity 7 | Bodega, checklist |
| Activity 8 | Promote |
| NATIONAL REPORTING SYSTEM (NRS) DESCRIPTORS: <br> ABE 5 AND 6 <br> These are skills that your students should master before moving to the next level: |  |

- Comprehend, explain, and analyze information from primary source materials
- Use context clues to interpret meaning
- Write a basic essay
- Interpret and develop tables and graphs
- Perform basic operations on percents
- Work productively and collaboratively in groups and serve as facilitator and reporter of group work
- Computer proficiency

Look for these level-specific Descriptors in the following Lesson Outline.

## DAY 1

## Topic: Reading a nutrition label.

Aim: Students will be able to analyze and compare nutrition labels in order to make informed choices about the drinks that they consume.

| Activity 1 Unhealthy, Healthier, and Healthiest | Share pre-existing nutritional knowledge <br> - Work productively and collaboratively in groups and serve as facilitator and reporter of group work |
| :---: | :---: |
| Activity 2 How Much Sugar is in Coca-Cola? | Hands-on activity <br> - Work productively and collaboratively in groups and serve as facilitator and reporter of group work |
| Activity 3 Learn to Read the "Nutrition Facts" | Short reading and beginning to decode a nutrition label <br> - Comprehend, explain, and analyze information from primary source materials <br> - Use context clues to interpret meaning <br> - Interpret and develop tables and graphs |
| Activity 4 Compare Drinks | Decoding a label <br> - Comprehend, explain, and analyze information from primary source materials <br> - Interpret and develop tables and graphs |
| Activity 5 <br> Which Drink Should I Choose? | Working in groups to analyze and compare nutrition labels <br> - Comprehend, explain, and analyze information from primary source materials <br> - Interpret and develop tables and graphs |

Homework: Read the Label!

## DAY 2

Topic: Healthy Bodega Initiative.
Aim: Students will be able to locate healthy drink options in the bodega and become more aware of their potential power as consumers.

| ACTIVITY 6 <br> Daily News Article | Independent reading, class discussion, and homework <br> review <br> - Comprehend, explain, and analyze information <br> from primary source materials <br> - Use context clues to interpret meaning |
| :--- | :--- |
| ACTIVITY 7 <br> A Trip to the Bodega | Class trip to the local bodega where students will <br> analyze and compare nutritional labels in the store <br> - Comprehend, explain, and analyze information <br> from primary source materials |
| Activity 8 |  |
| Healthy Bodegas Initiative | Class reflection on trip to bodega and introduction of <br> Healthy Bodegas Initiative <br> - Work productively and collaboratively in groups <br> and serve as facilitator and reporter of group work |
| HOMEWORK | 200-250 word essay about the Healthy Bodegas <br> Essay |

Set Goals for Your Health: Buy Healthier Drinks!

## Activity 1: Unhealthy, Healthier, and Healthiest

Divide class into small groups. Ask them to discuss the questions 1-4. Then have groups report to class and discuss.

What do the following words mean to you?
Directions: Provide a definition and an example for each vocabulary word.

1. Healthy: Something that is good for you because it helps your body. is healthy.

## 2. Unhealthy: Not good for your health.

 is unhealthy.3. Healthier: This is a better option than another choice.
$\qquad$ is unhealthy. $\qquad$ is healthier.
4. Healthiest: This is the best choice for your health, better than all of the other choices.
is healthier, but $\qquad$ is the healthiest. $\overline{\text { While students are working in groups, copy these columns onto the board. After }}$ the groups have shared their answers, ask several students to share what they ate and drank yesterday and write their responses onto the board. Ask students to decide what column each food or drink belongs in and why. Ask students about the healthiest food and drink options. Students should take notes on their handout.

| UNHEALTHY | HEALTHIER | HEALTHIEST |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Cookies <br> Chips <br> Candy <br> Soda | Cereal <br> Soup <br> Eggs <br> Juice | Fruit |
| Why? | Why? | Vegetables <br> Beans |
| Water |  |  |
| They have a lot of sugar, salt, <br> fat preservatives, and artificial <br> flavors and/or colors. | They are more nutritious and <br> provide some vitamins and <br> minerals that may help your <br> body. | They have a lot of vitamins and <br> minerals. These nutrients help <br> your body and mind stay strong <br> and healthy. |
| How does this affect our <br> health? | How does this affect our <br> health? | How does this affect our <br> health? |
| Eating these foods can make us <br> gain weight. Gaining weight can <br> lead to obesity. These foods <br> can also cause health problems <br> such as heart disease and high <br> cholesterol. | Eating foods like this gives us <br> energy and makes us strong. | Eating these foods will make us <br> feel healthy, energetic and <br> strong. Some doctors say that a <br> diet high in fresh fruit and <br> vegetables can help prevent <br> health problems like cancer. |

## Activity 2: How Much Sugar is in Coca-Cola?

- Prep-work: Be ready to distribute empty and dry Coca-Cola bottles, scrap paper, a bowl of sugar, and a teaspoon to each table or desk.
- Introduce activity using a bottle of Coca-Cola as a visual.
- Ask: How many students drink Coca-Cola? Is Coca-Cola healthy or unhealthy and why?
- Divide students by tables. Show students the teaspoon and ask each table to estimate how many teaspoons of sugar are in the whole bottle of Coca-Cola. Record their estimations (educated guesses) on the board.
- There are 17 teaspoons of sugar in the bottle ( 17 teaspoons is equal to 65 grams of sugar).
- Ask for volunteers from the table with the closest guess to help you distribute the materials. Demonstrate how to use the scrap paper as a funnel. Have students work in groups spooning sugar into their bottles.

| Conversions |  |
| :--- | :--- |
| 65 grams sugar | $=17$ teaspoons of sugar |
| 48 teaspoons | $=1$ cup |
| 16 cups | $=1$ gallon |
| 365 days | $=1$ year |

Use this conversion table to answer the word problems below: ask students to round their answers to the nearest whole.

1. How many grams of sugar are in one teaspoon? Almost 4 grams in every teaspoon ( $65 / 17=3.8$ ).

2. How many teaspoons of sugar will a person consume in one year by drinking one Coca-Cola every day? 6205 teaspoons of sugar (17x365).
3. How many cups of sugar will a person consume in one year by drinking one bottle of Coca-Cola everyday? A little more than 129 cups of sugar
 (6205/48=129.3).
4. How many gallons of sugar will a person consume in one year by drinkng one bottle of Coca-Cola everyday? A little more than 8 gallons of sugar (129.271/16=8.1)

- Tell your students that you knew how much sugar was in Coca-Cola because you read the label.
- Ask: Do you read the label? Why (or why not)?
- Explain that students will learn how to read labels for the rest of the lesson.


## ACTIVITY 3: LEARN TO READ THE "NUTRITION FACTS"

Labels provide information about items we purchase. For example, our clothes have labels that provide information about their origin and the proper way to clean them. Federal law requires that all packaged food and drinks we buy also have a label. This label is called the "Nutrition Facts." It is important to read the labels on the food and drinks that we buy in order to determine whether a food or drink is unhealthy.

This lesson is about how to read drink labels. It may seem strange that this lesson is only about drinks, but there are a few good reasons why. First, while it is common for a person to have a soda from time to time, not all people eat unhealthy food. Second, it is easier to alter drinking habits than food habits. For instance, Coke and Diet Coke cost the same amount, but there is often a big difference between the price of fast food and healthy food. Finally, drinks like Coca-Cola have a significant impact on our health because too much sugar in our diets can cause obesity, tooth decay, and diabetes. Just think of all of the sugar you consume when you drink one bottle of Coca-Cola!

## Ask these 4 questions when you read a drink label.

Have students begin with their finger on the word Nutrition and then move their finger down and to the right (where the numerical data is) with each step.


Use context clues to answer questions 1-3 below:

1. What does origin mean?
a. source
b. natural
c. new
2. What does significant mean?
a. trivial b. easy c. important
3. What does alter mean?
a. maintain b. modify c. later
4. What is not a reason that this lesson is only focusing on drinks?
a. Drinks influence our health
b. It is easy to change drink habits
c. Drinks are more expensive
5. How many teaspoons of sugar are in one cup ( 8 oz. ) of orange juice?
Almost 8 teaspoons 30/3.823=7.846

## ACTIVITY 3 (CONTINUED):

## LEARN TO READ THE "NUTRITION FACTS" ${ }^{1}$

Introduce activity by referring students to the bottle of sugar from Activity 2. Have students read along with you and refer to the label step by step. They should record the answers as you go. If there are no calories or other nutrients have students write " 0 ."


Ask these 4 questions when you read a drink label.
(Assume that you will drink the whole bottle.)

1. What is the Serving Size? 20 fl.oz.

- One serving or the whole bottle? For the sake of this lesson we will assume that most people drink the whole bottle.
- Take this opportunity to pour 8 fl.oz. of Coca-Cola (or water) into a measuring cup so your students will see 8 fl.oz. Ask your students if they ever drink just one serving from the bottle.

2. How many Calories? 240

- Calories are energy our body gets through food and drinks.
- We need about 2,000 calories each day.

What percent of our 2,000 calorie diet do we consume if we drink a bottle of Coca-Cola?
$240 / 2000=24 / 200=12 / 100=12 \%$

- If we eat or drink too much sugar, we will gain weight.

3. How much Total Fat? 0 grams

- Too much fat can lead to heart disease.

4. How much Sugar? 65 grams

- Too much can lead to obesity, diabetes, and tooth decay.


## Questions:

1. Is Coca-Cola healthy? No, it is unhealthy.
2. Why? It has too many calories and too much sugar.
3. Compare 8 oz. of Coca-Cola to 8 oz. of Orange Juice.

What is the difference in calories? Orange juice has 37 more calories.
What is the difference in grams of sugar? Orange juice has 3 more grams of sugar.
What does this tell you about juice? Orange juice is not necessarily healthier than Coca-Cola.
If you are watching your calories or your sugar intake, it is good to avoid juice as well.

## Activity 4: COMPARE DRINKS

Ask students to complete reading and the questions individually or in pairs.

| Unhealthy drinks have | Healthier drinks have |
| :---: | :---: |
| - Too many Calories | - Fewer Calories |
| - Too much Fat | - Less Fat |
| - Too much Sugar | - Less Sugar |

Milk is a healthy drink, but whole or regular milk is actually unhealthy for adults. This is because it has too much fat. Too much fat in our diets increases our risk of high cholesterol, heart disease, and stroke. Other types of milk such as $1 \%$ milk are healthier than whole milk because they have less fat. Skim or fat-free milk is the healthiest type of milk because it has no fat at all.


1. What is the Serving Size? 1 cup
2. How many Calories? 150

That is what percent of a 2,000 calorie diet?
150/2000; 15/200; $3 / 40=7.5 \%$
3. How much Total Fat? 8 grams
4. How much Sugar? 12 grams


1. What is the Serving Size? 1 cup
2. How many Calories? 100

That is what percent of a 2,000 calorie diet? 100/2000; 2/40; $1 / 20=5 \%$
3. How much Total Fat? 2.5 grams
4. How much Sugar? 12 grams

## Questions:

1. Which milk is healthier? $1 \%$ milk is healthier.
2. Explain why using information from the label $1 \%$ milk has fewer calories and less fat.

## Activity 5: Which Drink Should I Choose?

The following activity is intended to help your students begin to practice analyzing and comparing nutrition labels on common beverages.

- In your materials you will find 3 different scenarios:

1. I'm thirsty! I want to buy something to drink.
2. I want to drink a healthy iced tea with my dinner.
3. I want to choose a healthy drink at the party.

- Each scenario will ask students to analyze and compare 3 different nutrition labels and to find one unhealthy drink and two healthier drinks. Divide class into 3 small groups and assign one scenario to each group.
- Make three columns on the board: UNHEALTHY, HEALTHIER, and HEALTHIEST. After students have finished their analysis of the 3 labels, have each group present their findings to the class and record their findings in the appropriate columns. They should explain the scenario to the group as well as how they came to each decision.
- The following labels are from common drinks that are sold in 16, 20, or 32 fl.oz. bottles. However, the majority of labels for soft drinks, iced teas, bottled waters, and sports drinks only provide information for an 8 fl.oz. serving. Therefore, assuming that most people do not limit themselves to just one serving, a very important part of learning to decode a label also requires basic math skills. As you saw, the Coca-Cola label does the math for you, but most drinks labels do not. Therefore, the nutrition information for common drinks can be very misleading unless our students learn to multiply the nutrition facts with the amount of servings in one container.

1. How many Servings? 2.5 servings
2. What is the Serving Size? 8 fl. oz. $\times 2.5=20$ fl. oz. per bottle

3 How many Calories? $0 \times 2.5=0$ per bottle
4. How much Total Fat? $0 \times 2.5=0 \mathrm{~g}$ per bottle
5. How much Sugar? $0 \times 2.5=0 \mathrm{~g}$ per bottle

Note: Many diet drinks do not list Sugar on the "Nutrition Facts." Explain that this means that there is no sugar in the drink.

## Scenario \#1: I'm thirsty! I want to buy something to drink.

While walking home from school you realize you are thirsty. You want something to drink that tastes good and is good for you. The three drink labels below are from drinks that you might find in the cooler of any store. If you want to choose the drink that would be most healthy for you, what should you do? Look at the labels. What will you check in order to decide if the drink is healthy or not?

Use the labels and the charts on the next two pages to find all the information you will need in order to decide which drink you are going to purchase. Remember to include the amount of servings each drink has. For example, if a bottle of juice has 2 servings and the nutrition facts list 17 grams of sugar per serving, then the total amount of sugar in the bottle would be 34 grams.


## XXX

acal-blueberry-pomegranate (triple antioxidants)
ingredients: vapor distilled, deionized, and/or
reverse osmosis water, crystalline fructose,
cane sugar, citric acid, vegelable juice (color),
ascorbic acid (vitamin C), natural flawor, berry
and fruit extracts (acai, blueberry, pomegranate
and apple), magnesium lactate (electrolyte).
calcium lactate (electrolyte), monopotassium
phosphate (electrolyte), niacin (B3), pantothenic acid (B5), pyridoxine hydrochloride (B6),
cyanocobalamin (B12)
for best results, stick it in the fridge. the inside is natural. the outside is plastic.


## Read the label! (Assume that you drink the whole bottle)

1. Serving Size?
2. How many Calories?
3. How much Total Fat?
4. How much Sugar?
$8 \times 2.5=20$ fl.oz. $50 \times 2.5=125$
$0 \times 2.5=0 \mathrm{~g}$
$13 \times 2.5=32.5 \mathrm{~g}$
HEALTHIER

Information on the label is based on a 2,000 calorie diet. If you drink the whole bottle, what percent of the day's calories have you consumed?
$125 / 2000=6.25 \%$


Read the label! (Assume that you drink the whole bottle)

1. Serving Size? $\quad 8 \times 2.5=20$ fl.oz. Information on the label is based on a
2. How many Calories?
3. How much Total Fat?
4. How much Sugar?
$50 \times 2.5=125$
$0 \times 2.5=0 \mathrm{~g}$
$14 \times 2.5=35 \mathrm{~g}$
UNHEALTHY

2,000 calorie diet. If you drink the whole bottle, what percent of the day's calories have you consumed? $125 / 2000=6.25 \%$

| Nutrition Facts <br> Serving Size 8 fl $0 z(240 \mathrm{~mL})$ <br> Servings Per Container about 2.5 |  |
| :--- | ---: |
| Amount Per Serving |  |
| Calories 0 |  |
|  | \% Daily Value |
| Total Fat 0 g | $0 \%$ |
| Sodium 0 mg | $0 \%$ |
| Total Carbohydrate 0 g | $0 \%$ |
| Protein 0 g | $0 \%$ |
| *Percent Daily Values are based on a 2,000 <br> calorie diet. |  |

Read the label! (Assume that you drink the whole bottle)

1. Serving Size?
2. How many Calories?
3. How much Total Fat?
4. How much Sugar?
$8 \times 2.5=20$ fl.oz.
0
$0 \times 2.5=0 \mathrm{~g}$
$0 \times 2.5=0 \mathrm{~g}$
HEALTHIER

Information on the label is based on a 2,000 calorie diet. If you drink the whole bottle, what percent of the day's calories have you consumed?
$0 / 2000=0 \%$

## Scenario \#2: I want to drink a healthy iced tea with my dinner.

After a long day at school and work you finally get home for dinner. You make a hot meal for yourself and decide to pick a refreshing and healthy iced tea to drink with your meal. Searching in your kitchen you find three types of tea. If you wanted to choose the drink that would be most healthy for you, what could you do? Use the labels below to decide which of the three drinks in your kitchen would be best for you. What might you check to decide if the drink is healthy or not?

Use the labels and the charts on the next two pages to find all the information you will need to decide which tea you are going to have with dinner. Remember to include the amount of servings each drink has. For example, if a bottle of juice has 2 servings and the nutrition facts list 17 grams of sugar per serving, then the total amount of sugar in the bottle would be 34 grams.


Read the label! (Assume that you drink the whole bottle)

1. Serving Size?
2. How many Calories?
3. How much Total Fat?
4. How much Sugar?
$8 \times 2=16$ fl.oz
$100 \times 2=200$
$0 \times 2=0 \mathrm{~g}$
$24 \times 2=48 \mathrm{~g}$
UNHEALTHY

Information on the label is based on a 2,000 calorie diet. If you drink the whole bottle, what percent of the day's calories have you consumed?
200/2000 = 10\%


Read the label! (Assume that you drink the whole bottle)

1. Serving Size?
2. How many Calories?
3. How much Total Fat?
4. How much Sugar?
$8 \times 2=16 \mathrm{fl} . \mathrm{oz}$.
$0 \times 2=0$
$0 \times 2=0 \mathrm{~g}$
$0 \times 2=0 \mathrm{~g}$
HEALTHIER

Information on the label is based on a 2,000 calorie diet. If you drink the whole bottle, what percent of the day's calories have you consumed?
$0 / 2000=0 \%$



Read the label! (Assume that you drink the whole bottle)

1. Serving Size?
2. How many Calories?
3. How much Total Fat?
4. How much Sugar?
$8 \times 2=16$ fl.oz. $45 \times 2=90$
$0 \times 2=0 \mathrm{~g}$ $10 \times 2=20 \mathrm{~g}$ HEALTHIER

Information on the label is based on a 2,000 calorie diet. If you drink the whole bottle, what percent of the day's calories have you consumed?
90/2000 $=4.5 \%$

## Scenario \#3: I want to choose a healthy drink at the party.

Relax! It's the weekend and tonight your best friend is having a party. When you arrive there are lots of people, the music is playing and a table is filled with tasty food and drinks. As you look at the drinks, you decide to pick the one that is the healthiest for you. How would you choose the healthiest drink? Use the labels below to decide which of the three drinks would be best for you. What things might you check to decide if the drink is healthy or not?

Use the labels and the charts on the next two pages to find all the information you will need to decide which drink you are going to choose. Remember to include the amount of servings each drink has. For example, if a bottle of juice has 2 servings and the nutrition facts list 17 grams of sugar per serving, then the total amount of sugar in the bottle would be 34 grams.


Read the label! (Assume that you drink the whole bottle)

1. Serving Size?
2. How many Calories?
3. How much Total Fat?
4. How much Sugar?
$8 \times 4=32$ fl.oz.
$0 \times 4=0$
$0 \times 4=0 \mathrm{~g}$
$0 \times 4=0 \mathrm{~g}$
HEALTHIER

Information on the label is based on a 2,000 calorie diet. If you drink the whole bottle, what percent of the day's calories have you consumed?
0/2000 = 0\%


Read the label! (Assume that you drink the whole bottle)

1. Serving Size?
2. How many Calories?
3. How much Total Fat?
4. How much Sugar?

UNHEALTHY!(Coke has 65 g of sugar)
$20 \mathrm{fl} . \mathrm{oz}$ $\underline{240}$
0 g
64 g
g

Information on the label is based on a 2,000 calorie diet. If you drink the whole bottle, what percent of the day's calories have you consumed?
$240 / 2000=12 \%$



Read the label! (Assume that you drink the whole bottle)

1. Serving Size?
2. How many Calories? $8 \times 2.5=20$ fl.oz.
3. How much Total Fat?
$0 \times 2.5=0$
4. How much Sugar?
$0 \times 2.5=0 \mathrm{~g}$
(Diet Coke is the same) HEALTHIER

Information on the label is based on a 2,000 calorie diet. If you drink the whole bottle, what percent of the day's calories have you consumed?
$0 / 2000=0 \%$

## HOMEWORK: READ THE LABEL!

Read over worksheet with students and make sure that they feel comfortable with the assignment. Encourage students to bring in labels from home to share with the class.

## 1. What drinks do you have in your home?

$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
Total amount of drinks: $\qquad$

## 2. Find an UNHEALTHY drink

Name: $\qquad$

1. How many Calories? $\qquad$
2. How much Total Fat? $\qquad$
3. How much Sugar? $\qquad$

## 3. Find a HEALTHIER drink

Name: $\qquad$

1. How many Calories? $\qquad$
2. How much Total Fat? $\qquad$
3. How much Sugar? $\qquad$
4. How many drinks in your home are unhealthy? $\qquad$
That is what percentage of your total drinks? $\qquad$
(unhealthy drinks / total drinks)
5. How many drinks in your home are healthier alternatives? $\qquad$
That is what percentage of your total drinks? $\qquad$
(healthier drinks / total drinks)
6. Do you have more unhealthy or healthy drinks in your home? Explain why.
$\qquad$
$\qquad$

## DAY 2

## Activity 6: DAily News Article

- Begin class by reviewing the homework assignment and the terms from Day 1 lessons such as: serving size, calories, etc.
- Hand out the Daily News article "Countering Pop Culture: Strategies for Weaning Kids off Supersweet Soft Drinks."

Before reading the article, ask students what they think the article is about
by simply reading the title and looking at the photos. List their responses on the board.
Afterwards, read the article together and have students underline unfamiliar words.
When you are finished reading, make lists of students' "new words" on the board. As a class see if you can define the words using the context; otherwise, provide the definitions.

Begin discussion of the article using the following questions and adding your own dialogue to encourage active discussion among the entire class:

- How would you summarize this article? Does our summary of the article after reading it differ from the list on the board we made prior to reading the article?
- Is the tone of the article informational or persuasive?
- What does "moderation is key" ( $5^{\text {th }}$ paragraph) mean to you? What does this refer to in the article?
- Do you think the ideas in this article are realistic?
- What strategies can you come up with to encourage our kids to drink less sugar?

Point out that it is important to read the title and additional print accompanying articles or essays to strengthen comprehension, especially in preparation for the GED exam.

# NOW <br> Countering pop culture Strategies for weaning kids off supersweet soft drinks 

## PA <br> SUGAR: Sodas are jam-packed with calories, and so are fruit <br> juices.

## By ROSEMARY BLACK

When it comes to kids, soda has gotten a sour reputation. Recently, the nation's soft drink makers agreed to stop selling sugar-laden beverages to schools around the country - following the lead of New York City, where they've been banned since 2003.

If you're still having trouble weaning your kid from supersweet drinks, dietitians have some refreshing advice, and manufacturers continue to invent products to bottle.
"Obviously, water is the gold standard, but a lot of times kids find it difficult to swallow, says registered dietitian Lisa Tartamella-Kimmel. "To jazz it up, slice up some fresh lemon or lime, or even a few strawberries, and put that into the water bottle. The water starts to take on the fresh flavors of the fruit."

Flavored seltzers may be a more palatable alternative for soda-craving kids - they're not just flavored, but fizzy and if you buy them by the individual bottle you can slip one right into a lunchbox.

Tartamella-Kimmel approves of an occasional lowcalorie, artificially sweetened drink - like Crystal Light or a Fruit2O -for older kids.
"Moderation is key," she says. "But I don't think these artificially sweetened drinks should be consumed by very young children."

Registered dietitian Jack-
ie Newgent likes letting kids
"make their own soda" by cutting seltzer water with half grape, apple or orange juice. "You are still getting the nutrition from the fruit juice, but with just half the calories," she says. "Of course, eating whole fruit is better for you than drinking fruit juice because you get fiber."

Among the bottled drinks, she recommends unsweetened iced teas for kids, but only if they're caffeine-free.

Keep in mind that drinking liquids isn't the only way your child can meet the daily requirement for fluid. Many kinds of fruit, including watermelon, cantaloupe and honeydew melons, contain a lot of water, so your child gets valuable nutrients plus fluids.

For lunch, cut up some fruit.
No, it doesn't look or smell like a Coke. But as the weather warms up and we edge toward hotter weather, it does a lot better job of quenching your child's thirst.

## Activity 7: A Trip to the Bodega

After you have gone over the text and table with your students ask them to choose a partner. Explain that their job is to find one drink for each category or three drinks total. Note: Teachers have been most successful separating their class into small groups and visiting several bodegas. This provides an opportunity to compare findings from several bodegas upon returning to class.

You are about to go on a class trip to a nearby bodega. The word bodega may be unfamiliar to you, but don't worry; bodega is the Spanish word for corner-store or deli. You are going to the bodega to learn about the type of drinks that they sell. Below is a list of unhealthy drinks. At the bodega it will be your task to find healthier drinks and answer the questions in the checklist below.

| UNHEALTHY DRINKS | HEALTHIER DRINKS |
| :---: | :--- |
| 1. This soda has too many calories. | Find a soda that has fewer calories. |
| Name: Sprite <br> Calories: 240 | Name: <br> Calories: <br> 2. This milk has too much fat. |
| Name: Whole Milk <br> Total Fat: 8 grams | Find milk that has less fat. <br> Total Fat: <br> 3. This fruit drink has too much sugar. <br> Name: Snapple <br> Sugar: 65 grams |

## 4. Does this bodega sell:

1\% milk? $\begin{aligned} & \square \text { yes } \\ & \square \text { no }\end{aligned}$
Skim or fat-free milk? $\begin{aligned} & \square \text { yes } \\ & \square \text { no }\end{aligned}$


Diet tea? $\square$ yes
$\square$ no

## Activity 8: Healthy Bodegas Initiative

Use this discussion as an opportunity to introduce the Healthy Bodegas Initiative and talk to your students about how they can get healthier drinks in their neighborhood stores.

Write these questions on the board. Ask students to work independently and answer the questions in writing.

1. How would you describe the type of drinks that the bodega sold?
2. What type of drinks do we want our stores to sell and why?
3. How do you think that we can get our bodega owners to sell healthier drinks?

Answer: All you have to do is ask them to sell healthier drinks! The more people that ask, the better!

## Activity 8 (CONTINUED): HEALTHY BODEGAS INITIATIVE

The following card is part of the New York City Department of Health's campaign to encourage bodega owners to make healthier drink options more available. Hand out cards and explain to your class that if students choose, they can be part of a citywide effort to improve the health in our communities by bringing the cards to their neighborhood bodega and asking for $1 \%$ milk.


Have students read the card.

- Ask your students why it is important to drink 1\% milk. (It is healthier than whole milk because it does not have a lot of fat, cholesterol, and calories.)
- Have students read the card. Explain that this is what they can to say to the bodega owner when they return to the store.
- Read the text at the bottom of the card. It reads "For materials to help you promote $1 \%$ milk, call 311 or contact your local District Public Health Office." This card will help you promote $1 \%$ milk in your local bodegas. What does the word promote mean? (endorse, encourage, campaign for)
- After you are sure the class understands, ask everyone to sign their card. Explain that they will be responsible for taking it to the bodega after class and encourage them to go as a group.


## Homework: Write an Essay

Some New York City neighborhoods have less access to healthy food and drinks.

These same neighborhoods also have the highest rates of obesity and diabetes in the City. Recent studies found that bodegas in Brooklyn, the South Bronx, and Harlem are the most common food retailers serving the local communities. This is problematic because most bodegas do not offer customers healthy options such as $1 \%$ milk.

Write a 200 to 250 word essay explaining what you think bodega owners can do to help make your neighborhood a healthier place and why it is important for them to sell healthier alternatives.
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$

$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$27 \mid 16 a$

## AFTER THE LESSON

## Set Goals for Your Health - Buy Healthier Drinks!

After reviewing what you have learned as a class, read over the text below with your students. Ask each student to share at least one goal with the class. Ask students why they chose each goal as well as how they plan to accomplish their goals. Check back in with your students a week or two later in order to discuss their progress.

Choose at least 1 of these easy ways to improve your health. Small changes in what you drink will make a big difference in your health.
$\square$ I will buy healthier drinks.
$\square$ I will read the labels on my drinks.
$\square$ I will buy drinks that do not have a lot of calories.
$\square$ I will buy drinks that do not have a lot of fat.
$\square$ I will buy drinks that do not have a lot of sugar.
$\square$ I will drink 1\% milk.
$\square$ I will drink fat-free milk.
$\square$ I will drink diet soda.

- I will drink seltzer water.
$\square$ I will drink water.
$\square$ I will ask my bodega to sell healthier drinks.


## After the Lesson

You or your students may want to know more about a certain subject after you have completed this lesson. The following are additional nutrition-related resources for program staff that may be helpful in the development of further lessons on nutrition, reading nutritional labels, and the Healthy Bodegas Initiative.

Looking for a good nutrition resource? Look to "The Nutrition Source: Knowledge for Healthy Eating," Department of Nutrition, Harvard School of Public Health. http://www.hsph.harvard.edu/nutritionsource/

Looking for more information about sugar and the soda industry? Check out this article. "Liquid Candy: How Soft Drinks are Harming America's Health," Center for Science in the Public Interest at http://www.cspinet.org/liquidcandy/

Looking for other agencies that do nutrition-related education and services in New York City? Check out the work that Cornell Cooperative Extension and City Harvest are involved in!

Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE) offers a wide range of programs and resources related to nutrition. All programs focus on healthy eating and active living to support CCE's obesity prevention efforts.
http://www.cce.cornell.edu/
City Harvest exists to end hunger in communities throughout New York City. They do this through food rescue and distribution, education, and other practical, innovative solutions. http://www.cityharvest.org/

Want to know more about New York City's Healthy Bodegas Initiative? Look to this website for more information:
http://www.nyc.gov/html/doh/html/pr2006/pr005-06.shtml
If you liked the idea of the Healthy Bodegas Initiative, you might also be interested in the Food Trust of Philadelphia's "Corner Store Campaign."

The Food Trust's Corner Store Campaign uses social marketing and education to increase demand for healthy snacks, works with the food industry to increase the availability of healthier choices in stores, and promotes participation in the school meals programs.

## http://www.thefoodtrust.org/php/programs/corner.store.campaign.php

