Power Up School Lunch

Beef is an important part of a healthy, balanced diet and no other protein source offers the same mix of essential nutrients.

Beef delivers key
nutrients like high quality
protein, iron, zinc, choline and
B-vitamins to fuel healthy growth
and development as well as
improved academic
performance in school-age
children and teens.



Choose MyPlate.gov

Pairing lean meats, like beef, with whole grains, colorful fruits & vegetables and getting at least an hour of exercise every day helps your body stay healthy and strong. Use MyPlate to help you eat from a variety of food groups.



School age years, through adolescence, are a pivotal time for proper nutrition to support healthy growth and development - yet nutrient deficiencies are alarmingly common during this life stage. Beef helps close nutrient gaps with 10 essential nutrients.



For some delicious school food service recipes with beef:

U.S. Department of Agriculture and U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Dietary Guidelines for Americans, 2020-2025. 2020.
U.S. Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Service. FoodData Central, 2019. fdc.nal.usda.gov. (NDB 13364 beef).

American Academy of Pediatrics Committee on Nutrition, Pediatric Nutrition, 8th Ed, ed. Kleinman RE & Greer FR. 2019, Itasca, IL: American Academy of Pediatrics. 1688.

Benton D. The influence of dietary status on the cognitive performance of children. Mol Nutr Food Res 2010;54:457–70.

For preparation tips for beef in school food service recipes:

