



What's in Your Bag? Food Diary Tracking Activity

Purpose: What's in Your Bag? Is a creative way to teach students about tracking their daily food habits and making healthy food choices. This activity gives students an actual visual of what they are consuming rather than just a list of foods.

Materials Needed:

- Brown or white lunch bags or small gift bags
- Index cards
- Student Activity Sheet
- Markers/Color Pencils
- Scissors
- Internet access (for finding calories of certain foods)
 - May use apps on cell phones or tablets if available
 - MyFitnessPal app for regular foods and Fast Food app for fast food calorie tracking

Instructions:

Day 1

1. Allow students to decorate their lunch bags making sure to include their name.
2. Students are to keep all package wrappings in the bag for everything that they eat throughout the day from soda cans and empty beverage bottles down to candy wrappers. Even if they eat out, make sure they keep the food wrappers.
 - a. If too many bottled beverages, just have students keep the wrappers
 - b. Also some of the restaurant food wrappers have the calories listed on the wrapper (i.e. McDonalds)
 - c. Meals prepared at home like hamburger helper have them keep the packaging as well or cut out the nutritional information.
3. On the outside of the bag students will track water, activity and hours slept. (chart included)

Day 2

1. Have students calculate their Daily Recommended Allowance for Calories (Activity Extension-include DRA for protein, fat, fiber and carbohydrates)
2. Next, have students calculate the amount of calories consumed (chart included)
 - a. Activity Extension/Advanced Math Integration-allow students to calculate percentages consumed of their total calories for protein, fat, fiber and carbohydrates
3. Have students answer questions about foods chosen and suggest healthy alternatives (worksheet included)

