Food Label 101



Based on information provided by the Dietary Guidelines for Americans



INGREDIENTS

- : Ingredients are listed in order of quantity in the product.
- It is important to analyze the ingredients themselves in a food product. If there is a long list of ingredients that you have never heard of, do some research before purchasing.
- Added sugar has many different names, such as corn syrup, brown rice syrup, dextrose, fructose, cane sugar, dextrin, etc. Keep an eye out for these when considering a product.

DAILY VALUE

- Daily value is designed to help consumers plan a healthy diet. It is based upon the estimated amount of a nutrient (or calories) needed to maintain good health (RDA).
 - A nutrient labeled < 5% per serving would be considered low in that nutrient.
 - A nutrient labeled >20% per serving would be considered high in that nutrient.
- To maintain a healthy diet, look for items that have a low percentage in added sugars, sodium, and trans and saturated fat.
- It can be helpful to choose foods that are considered high in fiber, Vitamin D, Calcium, and Iron.