

# Lunch Skills

## **General Lunch Skills**

- Staying in your seat while eating
- Asking for help
- Keeping food in a small area of the table
- Manners at the table
  - don't talk with your mouth full
  - using a napkin
  - wiping up spills
  - taking manageable bites
  - cleaning up dropped items

# **Hot Lunch Skills**

If your child is going to eat hot lunch at school, they will need these skills.

### **Carrying a full tray**

- Have your child practice walking with a tray (or baking pan).
- Add items to the tray.

In kindergarten, their food tray will include items such as a carton of milk, plate of warm food, bowl of fruit and veggies.

Bonus: Let your child practice opening containers similar to milk cartons.

## **Lunch from Home**

Planning on sending your child with a lunch from home?

### Have your child practice opening:

- packages of food (crackers, string cheese, sandwich bags, apple sauce/fruit cups)
- pouch drinks
- water bottles
- reusable containers (screw-on lids, clasps, vents)

#### Knowing what to do with leftovers

- What do you throw away? What do you bring home?
  - identifying reusable containers vs. single-use containers
  - repacking unopened lunch items into their lunch bag
  - throwing away trash

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