

# FOOD DAY

OCTOBER 24, 2012

## Food Day in Schools

### What is Food Day?

**Food Day** is a nationwide celebration of and movement toward more healthy, affordable, and sustainable food culminating in a day of action on October 24 every year. Created by the nonprofit Center for Science in the Public Interest and driven by a diverse coalition of food movement leaders and citizens, Food Day aims to bring us closer to a food system with “real food” that is produced with care for the environment, animals, and the women and men who grow, harvest, and serve it. The inaugural year, 2011, featured more than 2,300 events in all 50 states! On October 24, 2012, you’re invited to help create an even bigger and better Food Day by organizing events that spotlight the food issues at your school.

### Why should schools get involved?

- Food Day is an opportunity to convene a broad coalition of educators, administrators, school boards and community organizations to plan activities that will educate, inspire, and mobilize participants of all ages.
- Food Day makes a special effort to provide educational materials to school children to promote healthy, sustainable, accessible and fair food in schools.
- With rates of childhood obesity soaring—at the same time that millions of children have limited access to healthy, fresh food—the **Food Day effort is especially relevant to our nation’s youth and schools.**

### What resources does Food Day provide?

- Connection to other food activists through the Food Day network.
- Listing on the national map at [www.FoodDay.org](http://www.FoodDay.org) or in the blog.
- Access to Food Day online resources and print materials.

### Who is partnering with Food Day?

Food Day’s national partners (100+) include the National Education Association, the National Parent-Teacher Association, the National Assembly on School-Based Health Care, and many others. Notable food activists such as Morgan Spurlock, Ellie Krieger, and Daphne Oz serve on our Advisory Board. Find a full list of our partners and advisors at [www.FoodDay.org](http://www.FoodDay.org).



### How can my school participate?

- Suggest to nutrition service directors that there be a special menu or menu item on or leading up to the week of Food Day, especially if they are seeking ways to highlight new meal standards set by the USDA.
- Hold a Food Day Youth Debate to engage students in topics related to healthy foods, obesity and food access.
- Host a “Chef in the Classroom” event to connect local chefs with students and the Food Day movement.
- Encourage school gardens to have special events for Food Day or kickoff a plan for a spring garden.
- Use the 5-day **Food Day curriculum** (written by a group of professors in the Food Studies department of Columbia Teachers College). Also see our Guide for Schools on the Resources page of [www.FoodDay.org](http://www.FoodDay.org).
- Get families involved in the six-week President’s Challenge; the Presidential Active Lifestyle Award (PALA+) is a national partner of Food Day.
- Celebrate Farm to School Week from October 22 – 26 during National Farm to School Month in October.
- Sign up for email updates through [www.FoodDay.org](http://www.FoodDay.org), follow @FoodDay2012 on Twitter, and “Like” us on Facebook!



Visit [www.FoodDay.org](http://www.FoodDay.org) to become a host or coordinator, email us at [foodday@cspinet.org](mailto:foodday@cspinet.org), or call 202-777-8392.

Register your school event—big or small—on the map at [www.FoodDay.org](http://www.FoodDay.org) so others can join in and get inspired!