## Top Five Tips for...

## Preparing and Serving Scratch and Semi-Scratch Recipes

rom...

Eva Chalabi

Director of Child Nutrition Services
Riverside Elementary School District

Start with your commodity products

Your USDA Foods entitlement provides you with access to many foods and products that can be easily incorporated into scratch and semi-scratch recipes.

- Pick simple recipes that are versatile

  Simple recipes are ones that include just a few common ingredients and don't require a lot of complex cooking skills or fancy equipment to prepare.
- Engage your staff in the process

  Ask your staff for recipe ideas they think will be successful in your meal service.
- Sample your new items
  Allow your staff and students to taste test any new recipes so you can gather feedback before planning to
- Utilize existing resources
  Check out <u>USDA Team Nutrition</u> or the <u>ICN Child</u>
  Nutrition Recipe Box.

serve them in your meal service.



