Food Ideas by Texture

Offer foods with a texture your child likes to add variety and improve nutrition.

Vegetables and Fruit	Grain Products	Milk and Alternatives	Meat and Alternatives
Crispy and crunchy			
 □ Apple, green pear, guava □ Banana or apple chips □ Bell peppers, cabbage, carrots, celery, corn on the cob, cucumbers, iceberg lettuce, kohlrabi, radishes, snap peas □ Dried seaweed □ Frozen melon strips and grapes □ Frozen peas □ Kale chips □ Veggie chips made from carrots, parsnips, beets, or radishes 	 □ Breakfast bars □ Croutons □ Dry cereal □ Filo pastry □ Granola □ Pita chips □ Popcorn □ Pretzels □ Rice, rye, or soda crackers □ Thin pizza crust □ Toast □ Tortilla chips 	 □ Baked mozzarella sticks □ Freeze dried cheese □ Parmesan crisps 	 □ Battered or bread crumb coated chicken, fish, or meat □ Bean chips or crisps □ Chia, flax, pumpkin, or sunflower seeds □ Grilled bacon or ham □ Peanuts, nuts □ Roasted chickpeas or soybeans □ Sesame snaps
Chewy			
 □ Cooked mushrooms □ Dried fruit such as apples, apricots, dates, mango, or raisins □ Fruit leather 	 □ Bagels, bread □ Frozen pancakes or waffles □ Granola bars or energy balls made with oats □ Oatmeal cookies □ Pasta □ Soft pretzels □ Thick pizza crust □ Whole grains such as barley, steel cut oats, or wild rice 	☐ Cheese strings ☐ Grilled haloumi cheese	 □ Battered fish □ Beef jerky □ Beef, lamb or pork steaks or chops □ Prosciutto □ Salami, pepperoni stick □ Shell fish such as clams or oysters



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Soft						
 □ Apple sauce □ Avocado, tomato □ Banana, kiwi, mango, nectarine, peach, pineapple □ Canned or cooked fruit □ Cooked broccoli, cauliflower, okra, pea, potato, pumpkin, sweet potato, or yam □ Grapefruit or orange segments with membrane removed □ Guacamole 	 □ Cooked amaranth, barley, couscous, or rice □ Cooked semolina, cornmeal, or congee □ Muffins □ Oat porridge □ Over-cooked pasta □ Pancake, crepe □ Rice cereal □ Rice pudding 	 □ Cheese sauce □ Custard, pudding □ Plain yogurt □ Milk □ Ricotta or cottage cheese □ Soft cheese □ Yogurt with fruit 	 □ Baked beans, lentils □ Canned fish □ Fish fillet □ Hard-boiled or scrambled egg □ Hummus □ Peanut butter □ Silken and fruit flavoured tofu □ Stewed or minced meat 			
Meltable or dissolvable solids						
 □ Baked green pea crisps □ Freeze-dried strawberries □ Toddler vegetable or fruit puffs □ Puffed vegetable sticks 	 □ Baby cookies □ Graham crackers □ Puffed cereals □ Rice husks □ Toddler rice puffs 	□ Toddler freeze-dried yogurt snacks	 □ Black bean crisps □ Lentil crisps □ Peanut crisps 			

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Stick shaped foods					
 □ Asparagus, cucumber, green beans, peppers, snow peas, zucchini □ Baked potato, sweet potato, or zucchini wedges □ Fruit cut into strips (apple, pear, melon, pineapple) □ Hard raw vegetables such as carrot, celery, or jicama □ Puffed vegetable sticks, green pea crisps 	 □ Baked pita or tortilla strips □ Breadsticks □ Crackers □ Granola bar, cereal bar □ Pancake or waffle strips □ Pretzel sticks □ Toast or bagel strips 	 □ Cheese strings □ Frozen yogurt tubes □ Homemade milk or yogurt-based popsicles 	 □ Beef jerky □ Chicken or fish fingers □ Falafel waffle □ Firm tofu □ Frittata fingers □ Ground meat kabobs □ Pepperoni sticks 		
Binders (thick purees that ☐ Applesauce or other fruit sauces ☐ Guacamole ☐ Pureed soft cooked or canned fruits such as apple, blueberries, mango, peach, or pear ☐ Pureed soft cooked or canned vegetables such as peas, potato, roasted red pepper, squash, or sweet potato ☐ Pureed vegetable soup ☐ Tomato sauce	help bind foods together) Congee Pureed soft cooked pasta Smooth baby cereal, other smooth hot cereals	☐ Cheese or cream sauce ☐ Greek yogurt ☐ Mascarpone cheese ☐ Pudding ☐ Sour cream ☐ Tzatziki sauce ☐ Whipped cream cheese	□ Finely mashed egg or tuna salad □ Hummus □ Melted smooth peanut, nut, or seed butter □ Pureed lentils □ Pureed soup □ Pureed tofu □ Refried beans		