



Around the **WORLD** in 80 Trays

January 18-22, 2021

Take the Pledge! The School Nutrition Team (SNT) has a goal of 80 School Food Authorities participating in *Around the World in 80 Trays*!

The Pledge for the Around the Word in 80 Trays: During the week of January 21-24, 2020, we will serve at least one internationally inspired meal and celebrate the unique cultural backgrounds of students in our schools and across this great state. Go to dpi.wi.gov/school-nutrition/programs/national-school-lunch and click on "Take the pledge".

Tips and ideas to prepare for your Around the World event:

1. Visit the International Meals section of the SNT [menu planning webpage](https://dpi.wi.gov/school-nutrition/program-requirements/menu-planning) (dpi.wi.gov/school-nutrition/program-requirements/menu-planning) for ideas and inspiration. Do your research – there are 196 independent countries and cuisines, which offer many menu items to try!
2. Start simple – little changes can make a big difference. Add flavors from various spices unique to different parts of the world. Make one meal a week with an international twist. Add international flair to a traditional menu item (i.e. add ingredients to regular nachos to make them African nachos).
3. Reach out to your staff, students, and school clubs such as the National Honor Society, student council, foreign language departments, local international grocery stores, cultural centers, or parents in your district for meal ideas and suggestions. They are your greatest resource! Invite families to eat with their students at home and share about their cultures.
4. Connect with neighboring schools for ideas and inspiration (e.g. Spanish or French Immersion schools).
5. Be willing to try new foods – sell the idea to your student customers.
6. Think outside the box—get creative. Instead of the familiar cuisines, go for more unique ones that students have not tried.
7. Test the recipe before you serve. Standardized recipes require testing and retesting many times until a quality product is produced. Consider offering samples before the big day. If you are unsure if students will take a full meal, offer small samples.
8. Create, display, and share your marketing materials for the *Around the World in 80 Trays* event. Find decorations for your cafeteria that are traditional to the culture. Play videos or music that represent the culture and to get students in the mood to eat food from that culture. If serving virtual meals, include the Around the World in 80 Trays logo on your website's menu. For social media promotions, use #AroundtheWorldin80Trays!
9. Get your staff excited! Educate them on the meal and have them get the students excited, too!
10. Plan and execute. Plan your menu, purchase quality ingredients, prepare your staff and students, advertise, and make a tasteful, healthy international dish.
11. Be sure to print off and hand out the stickers available for *Around the World in 80 Trays* or include the stickers in bagged or take-home meals. Stickers can be found at the link at the top of the page.

Send pictures and videos of the event to DPIFNS@dpi.wi.gov so we can share your success on social media! For help creating international dishes, reach out to a SNT [Public Health Nutritionist](https://dpi.wi.gov/school-nutrition/directory#PHN) (dpi.wi.gov/school-nutrition/directory#PHN)

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