Build a salad bowl

Introduction
This activity is designed to teach students how to make a healthy meal that includes a variety of vegetables. Students will learn basic knife skills, teamwork, and how to evenly measure and divide ingredients.

What to do

Before the cooking lesson:
1. Ask students to complete step one to six in their groups.
2. Based on your students’ selections in step one to five, ensure you have enough ingredients for the cooking lesson.
3. Pre-cook the grains and noodles (see skill cards on the Heart Foundation website and Vegetables.co.nz).
4. Prepare the salad dressings (see recipes on the Heart Foundation website and Vegetables.co.nz).

During the cooking lesson:
5. Ask students to collect their chosen ingredients and make the recipe.
6. Ask students to evaluate their salad bowl.

Tips
• Growing and using vegetables and herbs from a school garden can help students learn more about vegetables, sustainability, and how to make a meal within a budget.
• Remind your students that each ingredient that they select is for their team of two students. For example, 1 cup of cooked soba noodles serves 2.
• If you do not have all the ingredients, decide which group will use which option.
• Encourage students to write a shopping list for their salad bowl, which you can collect and use to plan the lesson.
• Encourage students who would like an extension activity to help you pre-cook the grains/noodles and prepare the salad dressings.
Building salad bowls is fun and a great way to eat plenty of different coloured vegetables.

**Working in pairs:**
- **design two salad bowls** with the same ingredients in each
- **give the salad a name.**

Follow the steps below to complete this task. Remember that each ingredient you choose is for your pair.

**Step one:** Choose your base. *Please select one.*

1 cup cooked soba noodles
1 cup cooked couscous
1 cup cooked rice
Step two: Choose at least three different coloured vegetables. Please select.

- 1 red tomato, sliced into wedges
- ½ small carrot, sliced into thin sticks
- ½ cup cooked corn kernels
- ½ cup finely sliced lettuce
- ½ cup finely sliced cucumber
- ½ cup finely sliced red cabbage
- ½ cup grated beetroot

Step three: Choose your protein. Please select one.

- 200 grams tofu, cubed
- 200 grams canned tuna, drained
- 200 grams canned butter beans, drained and rinsed
- 200 grams cooked shredded chicken
Step four: Choose your dressing. Please select one.

- ¼ cup lemon and ginger dressing
- ¼ cup balsamic dressing
- ¼ cup honey and mustard dressing

Step five: Choose your garnish. Please select one.

- 1 tablespoon chopped mint
- 1 tablespoon chopped spring onion
- 1 tablespoon chopped parsley
Step six: Write your recipe.  
**Hint:** List the ingredients you have chosen above.

Recipe name:
Rainbow tuna bowl

**Serves 2**

**Ingredients**
- 1 cup cooked rice
- 1 red tomato sliced into wedges
- ½ cup finely sliced lettuce
- ½ cup finely sliced red cabbage
- 200 grams canned tuna, drained
- ¼ cup lemon and ginger dressing
- 1 tablespoon chopped spring onion

**Method**
1. Place ½ cup cooked grains in each salad bowl.
2. Top the grains with an even amount of vegetables.
3. Next, evenly divide the protein among each bowl (on top of grains and vegetables).
4. Drizzle an even amount of dressing over top of salad.
5. Garnish with herbs and serve.

**Equipment**
- Chopping board and knife
- Kitchen scales
- Measuring cups
- Measuring spoons
- Spoons
- Serving bowls

**Preparation and cooking skills**
Chop, divide, grate, measure, slice.

**Extension task**
Cook the noodles or grains yourself using one of our skill cards on the Heart Foundation website and Vegetables.co.nz.
If you have a school garden, think about how you can use the vegetables and herbs that you are growing for your salad bowl.