



Why is active play important?

Active play helps your child learn healthy habits.

There are many health benefits of active play, such as:

- Active children are less likely to weigh too much.
- Keeping your child active now helps lower the chance of developing chronic diseases like Type 2 diabetes.
- Activities, like running and jumping rope, help your child learn movement skills to develop muscles and strong bones.
- Active play can also help the mind develop. Playing “pretend” lets kids be creative.
- Active children are more likely to be happy and feel good about themselves. Children feel proud after learning how to bounce a ball or ride a bike

Indoor play

Act out a story
Turn up the music and dance
Walk inside a shopping mall
Play games, such as duck-duck-goose, hide and seek, follow the leader, Simon says

Outdoor play


Family walks after dinner
Play catch
Take a nature hike
Games in the yard or park
Build a snowman


Happens Every Month


Please complete your activity by the end of _____ for your food benefits to continue.

Household ID #


Head Start: Many classroom and home-visit activities have been WIC approved. Talk to your child’s classroom teacher or home visitor for more details. 


Grocery Store Tours: Do you need help making the most of your WIC benefit every month? If so, schedule an appointment for a grocery store tour with a nutritionist and we will help you through the aisles using the *WIC Program and Food Guide*. We will help you find all your favorite WIC eligible foods and share tips on how to maximize your monthly benefit. Call (802) 524-7970, to schedule a tour. 


Nurse Family Partnership (NFP): This program provides education and support for new families. The goals are to help you have a healthy baby, learn how to promote your baby’s health and development, and to help you achieve your own goals. For more information about the program call Rhonda @ 393-6775. If you already receive NFP visits, talk with your home visitor about how to receive WIC credit. 


Breastfeeding Moms Group: You are invited to the Department of Health’s FREE breastfeeding Prep class! Personalize your breastfeeding plan, line up your support, go over the basics, ask questions and get real-life answers. Call (802) 309-5927 to find location of next group, and to register. 

Latch On: Learn more about breastfeeding and share stories in a relaxed and caring environment. This group is for babies and pregnant moms. Group meets every 3rd Saturday from 10am – Noon at Northwestern Medical Center in their Wellness Room on the Family Birth Unit.

Baby Massage & Breastfeeding Group: These groups are a great way to learn about breastfeeding, the benefits of baby massage and parenting. Group meets every 2nd Wed. from 9:30am – 11:15am @ the Alburgh library. 

The Secrets of Baby Behavior: Join other pregnant women like you, to learn about newborn behavior— so, you know what to expect after your baby is born. We’ll talk about hunger cues, infant sleep patterns and reasons for crying, and we’ll also help you see solutions to common concerns. Understanding your baby better can help you feel less stressed and more confident in caring for your newborn. This class is available to all participants of the NWMC Healthy Beginnings program, that takes place Mondays, from 6-8pm. Location: Northwestern Medical Center in 


WIChealth.org: Complete your WIC nutrition education online with **wichealth.org**. You’re just a few clicks away from discovering ways to help keep you and your family healthy. Lots of families like these activities because they can be done at your convenience in the privacy of your own home. Check us out @ www.wichealth.org 

RiseVT / Rise TV: RiseVT is a movement towards better health for people of all ages in Franklin and Grand Isle Counties. Watch one of these great videos (listed below), at home and call the office with the WIC Approved Activity code mentioned during the video and discuss the video with a WIC staff member. Visit the RiseVT YouTube page for all of the great video options. 


<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCV2sVgwo9J86ZrRl4-n19sA>

WIC approved RiseVT videos: Rise VT Kids Yoga, Healthy Story Time, Home Workouts, Resistance Bands, and Smoothie Making



Library Activities

Story Time: Families participate in movement and craft activities and enjoy listening to fun stories. All families welcome – Some story hours include a healthy snack! 

- Franklin Haston Public Library on Thursday mornings starting at 10:30 AM.
- Fairfax Community Library on Tuesday mornings at 9:30 AM
- Enosburgh Public Library every Saturday 10-11AM. Enosburgh Public Library also offers a Mommy and Me Story Hour Every Friday 9-10 AM
- Highgate Public Library every Tuesday at 11am & Wednesday at 10am.
- Fairfield (BNML) Library every Wednesday from 10 -11:30am.

Movement and Music Story Time: Movement and Music Story time is an activity at the St. Albans Free Library that incorporates physical activity/ movement with music. The Activity is geared for ages 0-6, that encourages and promotes exercise by making it fun through music! Its located at the St. Albans Free Library (11 Maiden Lane, St. Albans VT 05478) – and takes place on Mondays at 10:30 am! 

Seasonal/One Time Events

- Farm to Family:** The Farm to Family Program gives WIC families coupons for free, locally grown, fresh vegetables and fruit from farmers' markets. WIC participants over the age of 6 months are eligible. There is a \$60 maximum benefit per family. Coupons are distributed on a first come, first serve basis. Ask your WIC Certifier for a list of distribution dates. 
- Healthy Halloween:** Celebrate Halloween with some hauntingly healthy snack ideas. Everyone is encouraged to come in costume! We'll start our celebration with music and movement followed by creating healthier Halloween treats to snack on together! Call 802.524.7970 to register. 
Wednesday, October 31st 10:00 -11am
Vermont Department of Health WIC office
27 Federal Street, 3rd floor, St. Albans
- Make your Own Salsa!** Join us in making garden salsa using fresh ingredients straight from our WIC community garden! We will talk about the different veggies/herbs being used and some variations you can try at home as well. You will get to leave with some delicious home-made salsa and recipe! Call 802.524.7970 to register 
Wednesday, September 19th 10:30 am-12pm
Vermont Department of Health WIC office
27 Federal Street, 3rd floor, St. Albans
- The WIC Garden:** We have a few community gardens this year! Help us out in the garden and talk about different fruits and veggies, what to use them for, how to grow them, etc. We will also be distributing our farmers market coupons at the community garden when we're there. Garden days will be weather dependent, so give us a call for more information! (802) 524.7970 
Community Garden Plot at Northwestern Medical Center
133 Fairfield Street, St. Albans

Recipe of the Month

Cauliflower Popcorn

From ChopChopmag.org

Ingredients

- 1 head cauliflower, core cut out, pull apart florets into pieces about the size of popped corn
- 2 teaspoons olive oil or vegetable oil
- 1/2 teaspoon salt

Instructions

1. With the help of your adult, turn the oven on and set it to 425 degrees.
2. Put the cauliflower, oil and salt on the baking sheet and mix well.
3. When the oven is hot, with the help of your adult, put the baking sheet in the oven and cook until golden brown, about 30 minutes.



Check out other great recipes on our Pinterest: www.pinterest.com/fgihealthvt/pins/

Stay in Touch With WIC

- **Facebook:** www.facebook.com/vdhstalbans
- **Email:** AHS.VDHOLHStAlbans@vermont.gov
- **Phone:** 802-524-7970

Key

Sign-in/Roster: 

On-line: 

WIC Call: 

Other: 

WIC Card: 