PLANTClassroom Activity: Designing a Balanced Diet using Online Nutrition Planning Tools and Resources

Introduction to Nutrition Planning (10 minutes)

Read the following text and answer the questions:

Nutrition planning is the process of creating a personalized plan for eating and drinking to meet an individual's nutritional needs. A balanced diet is essential for maintaining good health, and online nutrition planning tools and resources can help individuals make informed decisions about their dietary choices.

1. What is nutrition planning?

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2.	Why is a balanced diet important?	
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Understanding Macronutrients (15 minutes)

Read the following text and complete the table:

Macronutrients are the three main categories of nutrients that provide energy and support growth and maintenance of the body. They are:

- Carbohydrates: provide energy for the body
- Proteins: build and repair tissues
- Fats: important for brain function and hormone production

Macronutrient	Function	Food Sources
Carbohydrates		
Proteins	age of 5	
Fats		

Meal Planning and Online Resources (20 minutes)

Read the following text and answer the questions:

Meal planning involves creating a personalized plan for eating and drinking to meet an individual's nutritional needs. Online nutrition planning tools and resources can help individuals make informed decisions about their dietary choices and create a balanced meal plan.

1. What is meal planning?									
2. How can online nutrition planning tools and resources help w	rith meal planning	?							
Group Task:									
Research and evaluate the following online nutrition planning re	sources:								
 www.choosemyplate.gov www.academyofnutritionanddietetics.org www.myfitnesspal.com 									
Resource	Strengths	Limitations							
www.choosemyplate.gov									
www.academyofnutritionanddietetics.org									
www.myfitnesspal.com									

Creating a Personalized Meal Plan (25 minutes)

Use an online nutrition planning tool to create a personalized meal plan for a hypothetical client with specific dietary needs (e.g. vegetarian, gluten-free, etc.). Page of 5

1. What are the nutritional needs of your client?

2. What foods will you include in your meal plan?

3. How will you ensure that your meal	plan is balanced and varied?
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ctivitie	s and Questions (20 minutes)
omplete	the following activities and questions:
nutr	rition Planning Scenario: Imagine you are planning a meal for a family dinner. Use an online rition planning tool to create a meal plan that meets the nutritional needs of your family mbers.
plar c	luating Online Resources: Evaluate the credibility and reliability of the following online nutrition nning resources: <u>www.choosemyplate.gov</u> <u>www.academyofnutritionanddietetics.org</u> <u>www.myfitnesspal.com</u>
	al Planning Challenge: Create a meal plan for a hypothetical client with specific dietary needs . vegetarian, gluten-free, etc.).

Conclusion (10 minutes)

Read the following text and answer the questions:

Designing a balanced diet using online nutrition planning tools and resources is an essential skill for maintaining good health. By understanding macronutrients, meal planning, and online resources, individuals can make informed decisions about their dietary choices and create a personalized meal plan that meets their nutritional needs.

1. What is the importance of designing a balanced diet?

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2.	How can online nutrition planning tools and resources help with designing a balanced diet?	

Additional Resources (10 minutes)	
Research and explore the following additional resources:	
 <u>www.choosemyplate.gov</u> <u>www.academyofnutritionanddietetics.org</u> <u>www.myfitnesspal.com</u> 	
Reflection and Feedback (15 minutes)	
Reflect on what you have learned and provide feedback:	
1. What did you learn about designing a balanced diet?	
2. What challenges did you face during the activities?	

3. What suggestions do you have for improving the activities?