Each day a child between ages 1 and 3 needs about 40 calories for every inch of height. This amount varies with each child's build and activity level. This means that a toddler who measures 32 inches, for example, should be taking an average of about 1,300 calories a day. A good rule of thumb for how much food to serve a toddler is $1 / 4$ of an adult serving size or 1 tablespoon per year of age.

| Food Group | Serving per Day | Number of Calories per Day | One Serving Equals |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Grains | 6 | 250 | - $1 / 4$ to $1 / 2$ a slice of bread <br> - 4 tablespoons cooked rice, pasta or cereal <br> - $1 / 4$ cup dry cereal <br> - 1 to 2 crackers |
| Vegetables | 2 to 3 | 75 | 1 tablespoon per year of age of cooked vegetables |
| Fruits | 2 to 3 | 75 | - $1 / 4$ cup of cooked or canned fruit <br> - $1 / 2$ piece of fresh fruit <br> - $1 / 4$ to $1 / 2$ cup of fruit juice |
| Dairy | 2 to 3 | 300 to 450 | - $1 / 2$ cup of milk <br> - $1 / 2$ ounce or one 1 -inch cube of cheese <br> - $1 / 3$ cup of yogurt |
| Protein group: meat, fish, poultry \& tofu | 2 | 200 | - 1 ounce or two 1 -ince cubes of solid meat <br> - 2 tablespoons of ground meat <br> - $1 / 2$ of an egg (yolk \& whites) |
| Legumes: dried beans, peas, lentils | 2 | 200 | 2 tablespoons or $1 / 8$ of a cup of soaked and cooked legumes |
| Peanut Butter (smooth only) |  | 95 | 1 tablespoon peanut butter spread thin on bread, toast or crackers |

