Upon entering the cafeteria, the customer is drawn to the salad bar by signage. The signage conveys the choices offered. The signage conveys how a student can make a complete meal from the salad bar. Is soup offered with the salad bar? Yes No

This checklist is designed to determine if your salad bar is meeting smart menu planning and customer service best practice standards. It can be used as a training or goal setting tool for your lunch program.

INSTRUCTIONS
1. Review the entire checklist before beginning.
2. Have your salad bar menu and production records handy for reference.
3. Check off the statements that you meet. The asterisked * items may only occur weekly, monthly or yearly.
4. Tally the score.
5. Discuss the results with your staff, students and other partners.
6. Choose any unchecked strategies as possible enhancements for the salad bar.

APPEALING SIGNAGE
- Upon entering the cafeteria, the customer is drawn to the salad bar by signage.
- The signage conveys the choices offered.
- The signage conveys how a student can make a complete meal from the salad bar.
- Is soup offered with the salad bar? Yes No

VARY THE VEGETABLE
- The salad bar is colorful and eye appealing with at least 4 different colors of vegetables offered.
- Serving dishes/pans are contrasting colors to make the fruits, vegetables and items stand out.
- One or more offerings contain a legume, dried bean or pea.

FLUCTUATE THE FRUIT
- Fruit is offered in at least two locations on the salad bar.
- One or more fresh fruit choice is offered.
- Sliced or cut fruit is offered.
- At least one fruit, vegetable, or item offered is locally or regionally grown or produced.
- A share table is available for uneaten, whole, fresh fruit.
Students are engaged in growing foods for the salad bar.

- Self-serve salad bar tongs, scoops, and containers are larger for vegetables and smaller for croutons, dressing, and non-produce items.
- The salad bar is easily accessible from both sides and/or is located in a high traffic area.
- A student can make a reimbursable meal from the salad bar.
- Two or three salad dressing choices are available.
- Self-serve spices and seasonings are available for students to add flavor to their salad.

Students are involved in helping to promote the salad bar.

List way(s) that this occurs: ______________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________

Engaging Students Subtotal ______ of 7

The salad bar is restocked and made presentable between lunch periods.

- The salad bar is featured on the monthly menu.
- Soup is offered with the salad bar at least once a week.
- Lentil, legume, dried bean or pea offerings vary throughout the week. (At least 3 different recipes or items.)

A monthly or yearly salad bar promotion occurs.

- A “new salad bar item” taste test is offered at least once a year.

Best Practices Subtotal ______ of 6

EAT THE RAINBOW BEST PRACTICES CHECKLIST

- Appealing Signage ______ of 6
- Vary the Vegetables ______ of 5
- Fluctuate the Fruit ______ of 6
- Engaging Students ______ of 7
- Best Practices ______ of 6

Scorecard Total ______ of 30

EAT THE RAINBOW ACTION PLAN

Put a simple plan in place to try 1-2 strategies to enhance your salad bar.

Strategies___________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________

Timeline __________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________

Staff member(s) _________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________

Other ____________________________________________________________

Acknowledgements: This resource was developed using the Smarter Lunchrooms Scorecard, Cornell University. www.smarterlunchrooms.org