

# Tell IT to Market Strain of the Strain of th

WHAT'S INSIDE?

The Heart's Superpowers. P1

Sweet & Healthy. P2

Nutrition Facts Fudgy Fruits. P3

Heart Maze Adventure. P4 The heart is not a game. It is life, health and love.
It works like a superhero making sure every breath
you take pumps you to move your body and feel good!
Take good care of It.

## The Heart's Superpowers:

Your superhero heart will pump blood all around your body to give your muscles and brain what they need. Once the blood finishes its job, it zooms back to your heart to start the adventure all over again!



Nutritional Sciences and Health Society for the South Texas Early Prevention Studies (STEPS) community.

# Sweet & Healthy A Seasonal Produce Guide





#### **Strawberries**

- Loaded with vitamin C which helps fight colds and other viruses.
- Low in calories and contains a lot of water.
- Provides plenty of fiber to support gut health.



#### **Apricots**

- Has a variety of vitamins and minerals that protect the body from disease.
- Provides a lot of fiber!



#### Kiwi

- Fiber-rich fruit.
- Full of vitamin C and other vitamins and minerals that help fight sickness and keep the heart healthy.

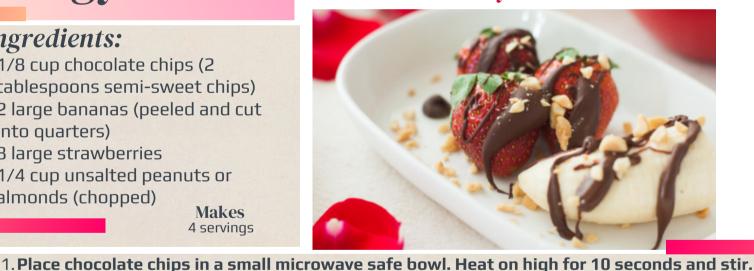
### **Fudgy Fruit**

#### Ingredients:

- 1/8 cup chocolate chips (2 tablespoons semi-sweet chips)
- 2 large bananas (peeled and cut into quarters)
- 8 large strawberries
- 1/4 cup unsalted peanuts or almonds (chopped)

**Makes** 4 servings

#### This Valentine's Day, share this delicious dessert with family and friends!



- Repeat until chocolate is melted, about 30 seconds, total. 2. Place fruit on a small tray covered with a piece of wax paper. Use a spoon to drizzle the
- melted chocolate on top of the fruit. 3. Sprinkle the fruit with chopped nuts.
- 4. Cover the fruit and place in the refrigerator for 10 minutes or until the chocolate hardens. Serve chilled.



**The American Heart Association** (2019) suggests that dark chocolate can help lower risk of heart disease!



Some studies suggest chocolate or cocoa consumption is associated with a lower risk of diabetes and high blood pressure in adults. Also, a study showed combining almonds with dark chocolate and cocoa also reduced LDL cholesterol that is a risk factor for heart disease.

# Nutrition Facts



**Serving Size** 

1/2 banana and 2 strawberries

Nutrients	Amount	
Total Calories	144	
Total Fat Saturated Fat Cholesterol	6 g 2 g 0 mg	
Sodium Carbohydrates	2 mg 22 g	
Dietary fiber Total Sugars Added Sugars included	3 g 12 g 3 g	
Protein	$3\mathrm{g}$	





- Al-Soufi, M. H., Alshwyeh, H. A., Algahtani, H., Al-Zuwaid, S. K., Al-Ahmed, F. O., Al-Abdulaziz, F. T., Raed, D., Hella, K., Mohd Nani, N. H., Zubaidi, S. N., Asni, N. S. M., Hamezah, H. S., Kamal, N., Al-Muzafar, H., & Mediani, A. (2022). A Review with Updated Perspectives on Nutritional and Therapeutic Renefits of Apricot and the Industrial Application of Its Undersultized Parts. Molecules (Basel, Switzerland), 27(13), 5016. https://doi.org/10.3390/molecules/27159016

  American Heart Association News. (2017), News. (2017), Pobruary 12). Are there health benefits from chocolate-lowers-bad-cholesterol https://www.heart.org/en/news/2019/02/12/are-there-health-benefits-from-chocolate-lowers-bad-cholesterol https://www.heart.org/en/news/2019/02/12/are-there-health-benefits-

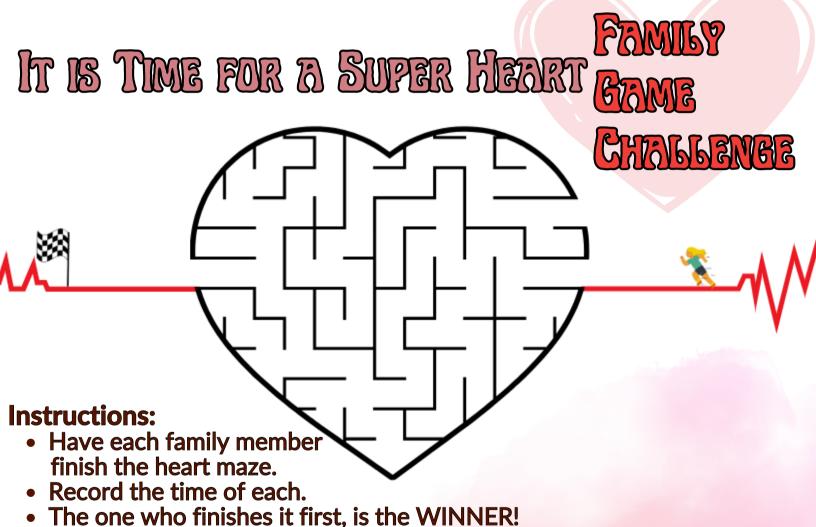
- Fudgy Fruit. MyPlate. (n.d.). https://www.myplate.gov/recipes/fudgy-fruit
  Newerli-Guz, J., Śmiechowska, M., Drzewiecka, A., & Tylingo, R. (2023). Bioactive Ingredients with Health-Promoting Properties of Strawberry Fruit (Fragaria x ananassa Duchesne). Molecules (Basel, Switzerland), 28(6), 2711. https://doi.org/10.3390/molecules28062711
  Richardson, D. P., Ansell, J., & Drummond, L. N. (2018). The nutritional and health attributes of kiwifruit: a review. European journal of nutrition, 57(8), 2659-2676. https://doi.org/10.1007/s00394-018-1627-z
- U.S. Department of Agriculture. (n.d.). Spring produce. SNAP Education Connection. https://snaped.fns.usda.gov/resources/nutrition-education-materials/seasonal-produce-guide/spring



SUPERPOWER CHECKLIST!

# Maze Adventure!

- Move your body Run, jump, or dance!
- Eat healthy foods Fruits and veggies are great for your heart.
- Rest and sleep Your heart needs rest too!
- Check your blood pressure to make sure it is on point.



<u> https://my.clevelandclinic.org/health/articles/17060-how-does-the-blood-flow-through-your-heart</u>

This issue was created by the UTRGV STEPS staff in collaboration with UTRGV Nutritional Science

Health Society for the STEPS/SNAP-Ed project.

UTRio Grande Valley

Project Sponsored By:





For more information: UTRGV STEPS Office (956)665-2127 Southwick Hall Rm 1.120

Southwick Hall Rm 1.120 1201 W University Dr. Edinburg, TX 78539

