Health and Nutrition Across the Curriculum

English/Language Arts

- Read a picture book or novel with the lens of what choices are made by the characters that contribute to their well-being
- Create a persuasive speech to convince a target audience (elders, younger children, parents) about healthy habits
- Examine how marketing has been used to promote smoking cigarettes and to stop people from smoking cigarettes

Social Studies/History

- Compare global diets and lifespans
- Study the health traditions and folk remedies of different cultures
- Learn about the economics of local farms versus factory or industrial farming
- Find out about the "slow food" movements
- Interview elders to find out how diet has changed since their childhoods

Languages

- Read recipes in different languages and learn about the food ingredients from different cultures
- Examine how language barriers interfere with health care in developing countries and among immigrant populations
- Look at media campaigns in different countries to address a variety of healthy life choices of interest to students

Theater, Music, & Visual Arts

- Create dramatizations of challenging situations and create "what would you do?" moments, and include examples of healthy responses
- Find lyrics of current songs that illustrate some of the difficult choices young people face and create a musical response
- Using photography, capture images of community health

Healthy Lives, Healthy Choices

Math

- Compare health care costs in rural, suburban, and urban communities
- Compare food labels for a variety of products
- Chart the percentage of fat, protein, sodium, and carbohydrates eaten in daily diets
- Find statistics regarding the reaction time of braking in a vehicle while under the influence of drugs and alcohol

Physical Education

- Develop workout routines for different age groups and for people with different physical restrictions
- Use pedometers and chart physical activity of students in a class
- Interview athletes for information about how food choice and exercise have value to build strength and endurance

Computer

- Research how increased recreational computer use (video games, social networking, etc.) impacts young people's health
- Design screen savers with positive messages about healthy choices and distribute to students and the community
- Create a template for keeping track of daily health habits

Science

- Find out how weather can impact the health of people living with conditions like asthma
- Learn what blood pressure is and how to check it
- Study the impact of cigarettes and alcohol on the body