**FOODS APPROPRIATE FOR BABIES**

 **6-9 MONTHS OLD**

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| Mashed bananas or small slicesApplesauceCanned pears and peaches Soft cooked/mashed vegetablesIron fortified infant cerealsChopped meat\*Cottage cheese\* | Yogurt (whole milk)\*Cheerios (fruit/veggie puffs)ToastGraham CrackersArrowroot cookiesZwieback toastPlain rice cakes (wagon wheels) |

\*Meat and vegetables are now recommended as first foods as opposed to cereal. Dairy products are introduced more toward 7-8 months. Remember the infant is still getting plenty of protein from breast milk and/or formula.

\*Introducing peanut foods early to your baby will help prevent peanut allergy

“Finger foods” are introduced once the infant has become a more proficient eater, about 8-9 months. Larger pieces of table foods like toast and rice cakes can be started earlier and often assist with positive oral reinforcement for the texture sensitive infant and help with teething.

Homemade baby foods: Avoid carrots, spinach, beets, turnips, and collard greens. These foods may contain excessive nitrates.

NO HONEY UNTIL THE CHILD IS OVER 12 MONTHS OF AGE.