

USDA Satellite Features Feed

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FEATURE – USDA TEACHES CHILDREN ABOUT FOOD SAFETY

INTRO: The U-S-D-A is hoping to teach children food safety lessons that they will take back home. The U-S-D-A's Bob Ellison has more. (1:35)

GRADE SCHOOL AND MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS AT A U-S DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FOOD SAFETY EDUCATION CAMP NEAR WASHINGTON D-C **ARE LEARNING** THE IMPORTANCE OF KEEPING HARMFUL BACTERIA OFF OF FOOD.

Jalen Williams, student, Annapolis, MD: You should wash your hands and wash the material that you're using. You should clean separate cook and chill.

THE CAMP ORGANIZED BY U-S-D-A'S FOOD SAFETY AND INSPECTION SERVICE **COMBINES** FUN AND LESSONS ABOUT PROPER FOOD HANDLING.

Terri Nintemann, USDA Food Safety & Inspection Service: They have a chance to go to different stations, learning things like how to calibrate a thermometer, how to handle food safely, how to wash their hands.

THE CHILDREN **LEARN** FOUR SIMPLE FOOD SAFETY STEPS. KEEP HANDS, UTENSILS AND SURFACES CLEAN. USE SEPARATE PLATES AND CUTTING BOARDS, SO JUICES FROM RAW FOODS DON'T CONTAMINATE COOKED FOODS. COOK MEAT AND POULTRY TO SAFE INTERNAL TEMPERATURES MEASURED WITH A THERMOMETER. ONE SIXTY FOR GROUND BEEF. ONE SIXTY FIVE FOR POULTRY. AND CHILL LEFT-OVERS PROMPTLY. U-S-D-A OFFICIALS **HOPE** THE CHILDREN **TAKE** THE LESSONS HOME WITH THEM TO TEACH ADULTS.

Nintemann The younger you teach people how to safely handle and prepare foods the more that stays with them throughout life and they can also influence their family members, their parents, their friends.

Sheryl Metzger, Teacher, Anne Arundel Co., MD Public Schools: A lot of these students are Spanish-speaking students and they are coming from Spanish-speaking homes so it would be really nice to take this information home and then translate it for their parents.

FOR MORE INFORMATION GO ONLINE TO W-W-W DOT ASK KAREN DOT GOV OR CALL **THE USDA MEAT & POULTRY HOTLINE AT ONE EIGHT EIGHT EIGHT M-P HOTLINE.** IN BELTSVILLE, MARYLAND FOR THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, I'M BOB ELLISON