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# Vitamins Health

Many people know they don't get enough vitamins in their diet. It's hard to get into the habit of taking a supplement. It's also hard to know what you need! *Read these 5 Signs of Vitamin Deficiency.* Now will you take your multivitamin?

## Warmup \*

Discuss this quote with your class.

"Friendship is like vitamins, we supplement each other's minimum daily requirements."



# **Pre-Reading Warm Up Questions**

- 1. Do you take a multivitamin?
- 2. Who should take vitamin supplements?
- 3. Where do we get vitamins from?
- 4. How do you know if you aren't getting enough vitamins?

## **5 SIGNS OF VITAMIN DEFICIENCY**

Do you have any of these symptoms? Maybe it's time to start taking a multivitamin.

### 1. Night Blindness: Vitamin A Deficiency

The eye uses vitamin A to change shape when entering darkness. In developed countries, vitamin A is added to many foods such as milk. This **deficiency** is common in **developing countries**.

# 2. Migraines: Vitamin B2 Deficiency

Vitamin B2 is called riboflavin. It increase your energy. Some **migraine** sufferers swear by this vitamin. They say a **supplement** prevents **chronic** headaches.

### 3. Anemia: Vitamin B12 Deficiency

Some people have a low red blood count due to a lack of vitamin B12. Meat, eggs, and dairy products have vitamin B12. Vegetarians sometimes suffer from anemia. It can cause pale skin and **fatigue**.

# 4. Bleeding Gums: Vitamin C Deficiency

Vitamin C supplements can reverse **gum disease**. It helps repair damaged **tissue**. Vitamin C rich foods include oranges, strawberries, and red peppers.

### 5. Depression: Vitamin D deficiency

Vitamin D is the sun vitamin. Many people suffer from **depression** in the winter months because they do not get enough vitamin D. Supplements can reduce seasonal depression.



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#### **COMPREHENSION** 🚈

True or False. If the statement below is true, write T beside the sentence. If it is false, write F. If it is false, correct the information.

- 1. Vitamin B2 helps you see better when driving at nighttime.
- 2. Some migraine sufferers swear by vitamin B2 supplements.
- 3. Depression often results from a lack of vitamin D.
- 4. Strawberries can cause your gums to bleed.
- 5. Vegetarians often have gum disease.

## Doctor's Orders ROLE PLAY



Create a role-play between a doctor and a patient who hates fruit and vegetables. The doctor convinces the patient to take a daily multivitamin.

#### **VOCABULARY REVIEW**

Matching: complete the sentences by using one of the words below.

1. A type of headache that is usually strong on the side of the head is called a	a.	lack
2. The opposite of a developed country (e.g. US) is a	b.	migraine
3. Another word for tired is	c.	fatigued
4 causes strong feelings of sadness.	d.	developing
5. When your body is deficient in a certain vitamin you have a of that nutrient.	e.	depression

RESEARCH (Homework or Computer Lab work)
Look up the following vitamins.
What do these vitamins do to help our body?
Which foods and drinks provide these vitamins?

Vitamin A	Folate	Vitamin D	Vitamin K



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### Did you Know? There are 2 main types of vitamins.

#### Water Soluble:

Need water for absorption. The body uses what it needs and excretes the rest. Take regularly!

Vitamins C and B (eight types of B vitamins)

#### **Fat Soluble:**

Need fat for absorption. The body stores some in the fat to use later. Vitamins A, D, E, K

#### RELATED VOCABULARY AND IDIOMS

What do these expressions mean? Can you think of an example to help remember these phrases?

- 1. This healthy snack is *packed with* vitamins.
- 2. We *store* some vitamins in our bodies for months.
- 3. Leafy green veggies are a good source of vitamin K.
- 4. It is difficult to *overdose* on vitamins.
- 5. It all boils down to having a balanced diet.
- 6. Vitamin C doesn't stick around for long.

# Create your own list: 5 Ways to get More Vitamins in your Diet

1. Eat an orange a day

Oranges are high in Vitamin C.

- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.

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