CCFS
Carroll County Food Sunday

School Food Drive Guide

School Food Drive Details

Food Drive Dates: _____

Collection Location at School: _____

Mission

CCFS provides food assistance each week in a way that enhances human dignity.

Schools Can Help

Students, teachers, staff, clubs, and families can work together to collect food for Carroll County neighbors. A school food drive is a simple way to build community and help local families.

How to Organize

Set a collection date, choose a drop-off spot at school, and invite classrooms, clubs, teams, or grade levels to participate. Encourage students to donate nutritious shelf-stable foods they would enjoy eating themselves.

Delivery Procedures

Deliver donations to 10 Distillery Dr., Westminster, at the loading dock during these times:

- Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday: 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
- Saturday: 9:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.
- If alternate arrangements are needed, please call 410-857-7926 or email ccfs@qis.net.

Suggested Donation Items

Student-friendly items may include:

- Cereal and oatmeal
- Granola bars
- Macaroni & cheese
- Spaghetti and spaghetti sauce
- Peanut butter or other nut butters
- Canned fruit and applesauce
- Fruit cups and shelf-stable snacks
- Beans and vegetables

Invite students to think about what they would want in their pantry if they needed help. This can be a meaningful way to connect service, kindness, and community support.

Other Ways Schools Can Help

Schools may also support CCFS through fundraising, service projects, or community partnerships. Scan the QR code or visit ccfoodsunday.org to donate and support local families.

Thank you for helping students and school communities make a difference for neighbors in need.

Enhance Your Food Drive Through Learning

Looking for ways to connect your food drive to classroom learning? The activities below help students explore math, science, engineering, problem-solving, and community service while supporting local families through CCFS.

Teacher Interaction & Classroom Connections

1. Can-struction Challenge

Subjects: Engineering, Math, Art, Teamwork

Using donated food items, challenge students to build:

- A city skyline
- A maze
- The tallest freestanding structure
- A domino chain reaction
- A school mascot or logo

Discussion Questions

- What design was most stable?
- How did weight and shape affect the structure?
- How did your team solve problems during construction?
- What was your biggest challenge?
- Did it take longer than you expected?

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2. Food Drive Data Detectives

Subjects: Math, Statistics, Data Analysis

Students sort collected items by:

- Food type
- Container Type
- Container Color
- Brand
- Weight or size
- Number of servings
- Nutritional content

Students can create:

- Bar graphs
- Pie charts
- Infographics
- Tally charts

Questions to Explore

- Which food category was donated most often?
- What percentage of donations fell into each category?
- How many total meals might the collection provide?
- Which foods offer the most servings per item?

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3. Can Pyramid Math

Subjects: Math, Geometry, Problem Solving

Challenge students to build can pyramids and investigate patterns.

Questions to Explore

- What arrangement is most stable?
- How many cans are needed for a pyramid with 5 layers?
- How many would be required for 10 layers?
- Can you find a mathematical rule or formula?

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4. Design a Can Bridge

Subjects: STEM, Engineering

Using cardboard, paper, tape, and donated cans, students design a bridge to span a specific distance.

Challenge

- Test how much weight the bridge can support.
- Redesign and improve the bridge.
- Compare results with other groups.
- Maximize the clear span between supports.

Discussion Questions

- Which design features improved strength?
- What changes increased the bridge's load capacity?

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5. Can Roll Investigation

Subjects: Science, Physics

Students investigate how different cans roll.

Variables to Test

- Heavy versus light cans
- Large versus small cans
- Different food contents
- Different rolling surfaces

Questions to Explore

- Which can rolled the farthest?
- Does weight affect distance?
- How does the rolling surface impact movement?

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6. Can Sorting Challenge

Subjects: Science, Critical Thinking

Students create their own classification systems for donated items.

Examples include sorting by:

- Food category
- Weight
- Size
- Nutrition facts
- Number of servings

Then another group attempts to determine the sorting rule.

Extension Activity Introduce a new food item and ask students where it belongs within their system.

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7. Can We Feed Everyone?

Subjects: Math, Community Awareness

Use food drive totals to model real-world food pantry needs.

Example If a pantry serves 125 families each week and each family receive 8 canned goods:

- How many cans are needed each week?
- How many weeks would your school's collection support?
- How many additional items would be needed to meet a monthly goal?

Reflection Questions

- Why are food drives important?
- How can communities work together to address hunger?
- What impact can one donation make?

School-Wide Challenge Ideas

Most Items Collected

Recognize the classroom, grade level, or club that collects the most items.

Most Pounds Collected

Track and celebrate the greatest total weight donated.

Most Creative Can-struction

Recognize innovative structures and designs.

Data Detective Award

Celebrate outstanding graphs, charts, and data analysis.

Community Impact Award

Recognize meaningful reflection and understanding of food insecurity and community service.

Reflection Questions

- What did you learn about hunger in our community?
- Why is donating food important?
- What surprised you about our school's collection?
- How did teamwork help your class succeed?
- How can we continue helping our neighbors throughout the year?

Every donated item helps CCFS provide supplemental food in a way that enhances human dignity while giving students meaningful opportunities to learn, serve, and make a difference in their community.