

# SHAPING YOUR WORLD...

9th Edition—March 8th, 2017

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A woman with her voice is by definition a strong woman. But the search to find her voice can be remarkably difficult. Melinda Gates

# Congratulations to The Top 15 in Abbotsford in Langley!





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### **Top 15 Abbotsford**



Gwen, Laurel, Maple, Cindy G, Jenn, Michelle, Tanya, Tara , Amber, Sheryl, Hayley, Angie, Bonnie Nicole, Sarah and Shannon!!!



### The Top 15 Langley



Tammy Floyd, Kristy Powers, Tina Toal, Erin Schwaiger, Charlene Delmaestro, Mary Barbara Stigum, Cherise McGee, Jennifer Petrichenko, Bonnie Blanchard, Shannon Janzen, Teresa Gentle, Teresa Randle, Taryn Marcotte, Carmen Phelan, Tracy Roper



#### Protein: What it Is, and Why You Need to Eat It

You may know what foods contain protein, but have you ever wondered what protein actually is and why you need to eat it every day? Protein is, of course, a vital component of a healthy diet. Most of us have known this since we were kids – probably from being told that protein would make us "big and strong". And, while

, while there's some debate as to who actually creat-ed the word "protein" (it first appeared in sci-entific literature in 1838), there's no disagree-ment that it was derived from the Greek word "protos" – meaning "first rank or position" – in coordination of how important protein is to life recognition of how important protein is to life.

What Are Proteins Made Of? The proteins you eat (and the proteins in your body) are all made up of small units called amino acids. You often hear amino acids described as "building blocks" because these small individual small individual

units are assembled in various ways to build proteins.

It may help to think of amino acids in the same way as letters of the alphabet. In Eng-lish, we use just 26 letters to make up all of the words that we write and speak. Some words are short, some

are long – but we create millions of words from just 26 letters. And, the final sequence of the letters is what gives each word its sound,

similarly, there are 20 amino acids that can be strung together to make proteins – the ones you eat, and the ones that are made by your body. And just as we don't use all 26 letters to make

every word, most proteins don't contain all 20 amino acids, either.

But – just as letters are strung together to make words – amino acids can be strung together in different sequences and in differ-ent lengths (from just a few amino acids to several thousand) to

make different proteins. And, the sequence of amino acids gives each protein its "meaning" – because the final structure of the amino acid chain determines specifically what that protein is.

and what it does

The Proteins You Eat Maybe you never thought about it, but not all food proteins are the same. The sequence of amino acids that creates the white of an egg is much different from the arrangement of amino

acids that creates the protein in a glass of milk

When you eat foods that provide protein, then, it should make sense that different foods con-tain different proteins (and usually more than one) – even though they're all made up of amino acids.

For example, when you eat milk or yogurt, you're eating proteins called casein and whey. When you eat meat or fish or poultry, you would be eating – among others – proteins

called collagen and myosin. Beans have proteins called legumins, and eggs contain a number of different proteins, including one called avidin and one called ovalbumin.

Each of these proteins is unique because each is made up of a unique sequence of amino acids. And once the proteins are di-gested and absorbed, their amino acids can then be used as

building blocks for the proteins within your body.

The Proteins Your Body Makes As protein foods travel through the digestive tract, they're ultimately broken back down into their individual amino acids, which are absorbed into the bloodstream. Your body our them use these can then use these

building blocks to manufacture some 50,000 different body proteins – each of which has a specific structure (and function) based upon its arrangement of amino acids. As long as your body has all the necessary "raw materials" in the form of the amino acid building blocks, it can manufacture these important body proteins - from the enzymes

that speed up chemical reactions in the body, to hormones that act as chemical messengers. (Other proteins support your immune function, or transport nutrients in your body – and of

course, you have proteins that provide structure to your bones, skin, hair, nails and muscle, too)

Once the amino acids enter your blood-stream, there's no way to tell whether they were derived from a bowl of lentils or a steak; they all end up as an amino acid "pool" in your body's tissues and fluids – a pool that can be tapped into as needed. To ensure a steady supply, though it's important to consume adorust though, it's important to consume adequate protein every day

You Need Protein Daily Eating the right amount – and the right types of protein every day is important for a couple of reasons. For one thing, if you consistently had a shortage of protein in your diet, your body would have no choice but to start breaking

down proteins within your body to provide the amino acids needed to produce the most vital body proteins While this process of building up and break-ing down happens in your body all the time, the system only works as long as there are adequate amino acids coming from the diet

to keep the

two processes in balance.

Complete and Incomplete Proteins The types of protein you eat matter, too. Of the 20 amino acids that your body uses to manufacture body proteins, nine of them are called "essential" – they have to come from vour

diet because your body cannot make them (although it can manufacture the remaining 11 amino acids).

Proteins that come from animal sources meats, fish, poultry, eggs, milk and milk products – contain all of the essential amino . acids, so they're referred to as "complete proteins

Plant proteins are found in foods like beans, lentils, nuts and whole grains and – with the exception of soybeans (and protein foods derived from soy such as tofu, tempeh, soy milk or

soy protein powders) – plant proteins are lacking one or more essential amino acids, so they're considered "incomplete". Strict vegetarians work around this by consuming a wide variety of

foods to ensure that they get their full com-plement of essential amino acids in their diet.

Susan Bowerman, MS, RD, CSSD, FAND

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**



The Real Me - Thank you to Trish Warren, Jenny Clough, Kristen Olynick, Brian Olynick and Bruce Warren for an amazing weekend of persona growth! (Press Ctrl and click on the image for link)



If you would like to volunteer, become a sponsor, or donate to Shape Your World Society, please see our website www.totalmakeoverchallenge.com or send an email to info@shapeyourworldsociety.com.



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