## Strawberries



- ◆ Surprisingly, the strawberry is NOT classified by botanists as a true berry. Because the seeds on the outside instead of the inside, it is technically a member of the rose family.
- Strawberries are a sweet and natural alternative to sugary candy snacks.
- ◆ Great source of vitamin C and potassium.
- ♦ Kids, can you guess how many seeds are on the surface of the strawberry? The average strawberry has 150 to 200 seeds on its surface.
- They are the first fruit to ripen in spring.
- ◆ They are hand picked because each fruit ripens at a different time. They are very delicate and easily bruised.
- ♦ If all the strawberries produced in California, in one year, were laid berry to berry, they'd wrap around the world 15 times. 23,000 acres of strawberries are planted there each year, producing one billion pounds each year.
- ♦ A French noblewoman at the time of Napoleon, Madame Tallien, used to bathe regularly in strawberry juice, using 22 pounds per basin. She didn't bathe daily though.
- ♦ The world's largest strawberry shortcake is hosted in the annual strawberry festival in Lebanon, Oregon.