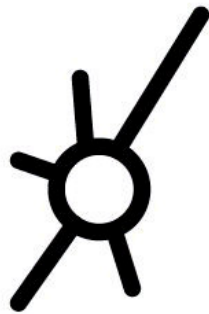


Healthy Kids, Healthy Forests



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Healthy Kids, Healthy Forests is a Maya Nut based school lunch program implemented in Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras and Nicaragua.

Maya Nut is an ancient rainforest tree food, once a staple of the Maya and other paleolithic civilizations, now largely forgotten and rarely used as food. Maya Nut is stigmatized as a famine food, and a food for the landless poor, who can't afford corn. Bypassing adults, who tend to be more susceptible to stigmas, we access the children, via school lunches, to reintroduce Maya Nut to the menu in Central America. Participating schools receive Maya Nut school lunches in exchange for committing to reforest at least 2 hectares of land with Maya Nut trees for future harvests. Maya Nut is more nutritious than soy, is very drought and climate change resistant, and is an important food for neotropical birds and mammals. By conserving and restoring endangered Maya Nut forests we protect soils, water and biodiversity and improve future food security for vulnerable rural poor communities in Central America. All Maya Nut for school lunches is produced by women and is fair trade, organic and sustainably harvested under management plans.

