## Sausage and Lentil Soup

Serves 4-6

- 180 g Italian sausage
- 1/2 large onion, chopped
- 1 stalk celery, chopped
- 1 large carrot, chopped
- <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> small zucchini, chopped
- 600 liters chicken broth
- 2 (400 g) cans diced tomatoes, undrained
- 1 garlic cloves
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 190 g lentils
- 1/2 tsp taste black pepper
- <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> tsp red pepper flakes
- <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> tsp basil
- 1/2 tsp oregano
- <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> tsp parsley
- 1/2 tsp thyme
- 1. Brown **sausage**; drain off fat.
- 2. In a large pot combine all ingredients bring to boil.
- 3. Reduce heat, cover.
- 4. Simmer for **about 1 hour** or until lentils are tender. Add water, if necessary, for desired consistency.
- 5. Purée about 1 C of the soup and add back to pot to give it a thicker consistency.
- 6. Sprinkle with **parmesan cheese** and serve.

