1 SERVE = 2 UNITS PROTEIN 1 UNIT VEGETABLES

800 g lean minced pork
1 small red chilli, finely chopped
1 × 6 cm piece lemongrass, finely chopped
3 cloves garlic, crushed
1½ tablespoons fish sauce
3 tablespoons finely chopped mint
3 tablespoons finely chopped coriander

LIME DIPPING SAUCE 2 tablespoons fish sauce ½ small red chilli, seeded and finely chopped 1½ tablespoons lime juice 1 teaspoon sugar

TO SERVE

crisp lettuce leaves 100 g bean sprouts handful mint leaves

Vietnamese pork meatballs with lime dipping sauce

SERVES 4 PREP TIME **35 minutes, plus refrigerating time** COOKING TIME **10 minutes**

This recipe is the epitome of delicious, sunny-weather food: aromatic meatballs wrapped in crunchy lettuce leaves and served with a sweet and spicy dipping sauce. These meatballs can either be cooked beforehand or at a barbecue as they are delicious hot or cold.

- 1 Place the pork, chilli, lemongrass, garlic, fish sauce and chopped herbs in a bowl and mix with your hands until the ingredients are well combined. Form into sixteen meatballs, then cover and chill for 30 minutes.
- **2** To make the lime dipping sauce, place all the ingredients in a small bowl and stir to dissolve the sugar.
- **3** Shortly before you're ready to serve, arrange the lettuce leaves, bean sprouts and mint leaves on a serving plate.
- 4 Preheat a barbecue to medium-hot. Cook the meatballs for 8–10 minutes, turning regularly, until just cooked through. Be careful not to overcook them, otherwise they will become dry.
- **5** To serve, place a meatball in a lettuce leaf with some bean sprouts and mint. Spoon over a little of the sauce, then wrap up and eat.

TIP For ease, you can also thread these meatballs onto metal or soaked wooden skewers to cook; thread four onto each skewer.

