Appendix 5

Healthy Kids: The Family Way study correspondence and questionnaires



Department of Public Health School of Medicine Faculty of Health Sciences



Dear Principal,

"Healthy Kids" The Family Way, is a study supported by CSIRO Human Nutrition, Department of Public Health at Flinders University and Department of Education and Children's Services (CS/06/0116-2.8), examining the family environment and its impact on children's physical activity levels, dietary behaviour and growth. This letter requests your support for family's of your school community to be involved in the study. We are particularly interested in promoting healthy behaviours within the family and weight maintenance in young children. We are collecting information about parent's activity and dietary behaviour, parenting styles, the household food environment, and parent's knowledge of health related recommendations.

We are collecting baseline measures in Term 1, 2007.

Who will be involved?

Parents of children in Years 1 to Year 5 at your school will be invited to participate. Questionnaires are to be completed by parents only but both parents and children will have anthropometric measurements taken.

What will be measured?

1. Height, weight and waist circumference of parents and their children.

We recognise the sensitivities associated with taking these measures on children, and will implement the following safeguards, in accordance with DECS guidelines:

- Measures will be taken by a qualified researcher.
- Children will be within full line of sight of their parents or another adult.
- A child's measurements will be taken in full line of sight of a parent but results not visible by the parent.
- 2. Three family environment questionnaires

A paper based questionnaire to be completed by parent(s) on site at the time of measurement and then two questionnaires received in the mail to be completed at home.

What will be asked of the school?

- Classroom teachers (Years 1 to 5) will be asked to distribute an information letter about the study to parents, and collate returned expressions of interest.
- A classroom or hall made available immediately *after school hours* for parents to complete the questionnaire and have measurements taken.

Please note: the school's involvement is minimal. The research team will conduct all measurement sessions and supervise the completion of questionnaires.

What are the benefits to the school?

The school will be supporting the promotion of health in South Australian children by collecting important information about their school community's family environments. A summary of all measurements by age and gender will be provided on request. On completion of the study, a summary report of the family environmental factors which support, encourage and promote healthy behaviours and the maintenance of a healthy weight status in children will be provided to the parents and the school.

Please note;

- All information collected as part of this study will be locked securely in the CSIRO Human Nutrition building for a period of 7 years following the study.
- While we are likely to publish the findings of this study, no school will be identified in the reporting of the findings.

Your school's support for this study will provide valuable and important information about the development of healthy children on South Australia. I will follow-up this letter with a telephone call in approximately two weeks. If you have any questions, please contact Gilly Hendrie on 83038936 or Gilly.Hendrie@csiro.au.

Yours sincerely

guly Attends

Gilly Hendrie

This research project has been approved by the Flinders University Social and Behavioural Research Ethics Committee and the Department of Education and Children's Services.





Dear Class Teacher,

This letter is to inform you about a research study your principal has agreed to participate in during Term 1. The study is called "Healthy Kids" The Family Way and is a supported by your school principal, CSIRO Human Nutrition, Department of Public Health at Flinders University and Department of Education and Children's Services. We are collecting information about the family environment, in particular related to food and activity behaviours. We are interested in what influences South Australian children's growth and weight changes. We are collecting information, by questionnaire, about family rules, parenting styles, the household food environment, and parent's knowledge of health related recommendations.

We are requesting your assistance to facilitate the collection of this valuable information about young South Australian children (School Years 1-5) and the influences within the family home environment. We are visiting Highgate Primary School during the week of March 5th to March 9th, 2007.

What is required?

- You will be asked to hand out an information sheet to all children in your class (see attached).
- You will be asked to encourage children to return the participation form and collect the returned forms and pass onto Peter Hansberry, on behalf of the researcher.

All the measurements and other data collection will be done by the researcher, during after school hours, in the week assigned to your school.

Please read the information sheet attached for more information about the study and what family participation involves. Your support in this study is valued. If you have any further questions please contact Gilly Hendrie on 83038936 or Gilly.Hendrie@csiro.au. Yours sincerely

Gilly Hendrie





Dear parent or caregiver,

This letter invites your family to participate in the "*Healthy Kids*" *The Family Way*. This study is supported by your school principal, CSIRO Human Nutrition, Department of Public Health at Flinders University and Department of Education and Children's Services. We are collecting information about the family environment, in particular related to food and activity behaviours. We are interested in what influences South Australian children's growth and weight changes. We are collecting information, by questionnaire, about family rules, parenting styles, the household food environment, and parent's knowledge of health related recommendations.

We are requesting your participation in collecting this valuable information about young South Australian children (School Years 1-5) and the influences within the family home environment. We are visiting Highgate Primary School from Monday 5th of March to Friday 9th of March, 2007.

What is required?

You and your child(ren) will be required to attend one afternoon session during the assigned week. This will be immediately after school and take approximately 30 minutes.

Three types of information will be collected:

- Height, weight and waist circumference of yourself and your child(ren). These
 measures will be taken in strict privacy, such that children will not be able to see each
 others results.
- One questionnaire to be completed by the parent, about your child's dietary and physical activity habits, and other health related recommendations.
- Two questionnaires about the family home environment will follow, by mail.
- Children will have follow-up measurements in Term 1, 2008.

Please note:

- All information collected as part of this study will be locked securely at CSIRO Human Nutrition for a period of 7 years following the study.
- While we are likely to publish the findings of this study, no person or school will be identified in the reported findings.
- You and your child(ren) are free to withdraw at any stage of the research, without penalty.
- A summary of the findings will be available.

This is an important study to examine the family environment and how it relates to the maintenance and promotion of a healthy growth in South Australian school children. Your participation would be highly valued. If you are willing to participate please complete and return the attached form indicating the session you and your child(ren) will attend.

If you have any further questions please contact Gilly Hendrie on 83038936 or Gilly.Hendrie@csiro.au.

Yours sincerely

Gilly Hendrie





"Healthy Kids" The Family Way

Where: Highga	te Primary School	
Location: School	ol Hall	
When: Immedia	ately after school, approximately	3:20 – 4:00pm
We will be atten	nding (please tick one of the follo	wing):
	Monday 5th nd March Tuesday 6 th March Wednesday 7 th March Thursday 8 th March Friday 9 th March	
	(keep this copy	as a record)
	(return this copy t	o class teacher)
	"Healthy Kids" T	The Family Way
	Monday 5 th March Tuesday 6 th March Wednesday 7 th March Thursday 8 th March Friday 9 th March	
Signed:		
Child's Name:		School Year:





Are you ready to see how much you have grown?

To the family,

It has been a year already and we would like to follow up your growth as part of your family's involvement in the *Healthy Kids: The Family Way* Study. This follow up will take <u>approximately 5 minutes</u> and involves taking the height and weight measurements of your child(ren). At this time you will receive the measurements of your child(ren) from last year.

We hope it is convenient to attend <u>one</u> of the following sessions:

 Wednesday 5th March, between 3:15 and 4.00pm in the Performing Arts Room

<u>OR</u>

• Thursday 6th March, between 3:15 and 4.00pm in the Performing Arts Room.

If you are unable to attend either session we have arranged with Peter Hansberry to weigh your child(ren) during school hours on Friday 7th March. If you do not want you children to take part in this follow up please contact the researcher, Gilly Hendrie, on 83038936 or Gilly.Hendrie@csiro.au before March 5th.

Your continued support of this research is highly valued and you will receive a summary of findings on promoting a healthy growth in South Australian children, at the completion of this study. Yours sincerely,

Gilly Hendrie

ID

"Healthy Kids" The Family Way

Family Information

Anthropometric Measurements



Researcher: Gilly Hendrie
Gilly.Hendrie@csiro.au



About this study

Thank you for agreeing to participate in this study. I appreciate your time to be part

of this research

This study is being undertaken to contribute to an understanding of the family

environment and how parents influence the food and physical activity habits of

children.

Your participation will provide valuable and important information about the family

factors that have a positive influence on children's health. This research aims to find

out about many different household environments and your honesty in responding

will be much appreciated. Whilst you may not personally benefit from the study your

responses to this survey are very important as they will assist in the understanding

and promoting of healthy lifestyles in South Australia.

This booklet collects some personal information as well as records your and your

child's height, weight and waist circumference.

All the information you give us will be treated in the strictest confidence. We do

ask you for some background information (such as age, education level, etc), to allow

us to assess whether people of different ages or backgrounds have different views and

feelings. No personal details will be revealed to anyone other than the project

coordinator and the identifying information will not be attached to the results. You

are free to withdraw from the study at anytime.

If you have any queries please contact the study coordinator, Gilly Hendrie 8303 8936

(email: Gilly.Hendrie@csiro.au). Please return this questionnaire to the coordinator

on completion.

Thank you in advance for your help.

Yours sincerely

guly Attends

Gilly Hendrie

3

343

General Parent Information

Today's Date:					
FAMILY SU	JRNAME:				
Parent (1) N	ame:				
To mail out F	Part 2 of the question	naire			
Home Addre	ss:				
Gender:	☐ Female ☐	Male			
Age Group	(a) less than 18				
	(b) 18 - 24				
	(c) 25 - 34				
	(d) 35 - 44				
	(e) 45 - 54				
	(f) 55 - 64				
	(g) 65 - 74				
	(h) more than 75				
Measurements to be taken by the Researcher Anthropometric Information					
Weight:	kg	kg			
Height:	cm	cm			
Waist circum	ference:	cm	cm		

(If applicable) Parent (2) Name: _____ ☐ Female ☐ Male Gender: Age Group (a) less than 18 (b) 18 - 24 (c) 25 - 34 (d) 35 - 44 (e) 45 - 54 (f) 55 - 64 (g) 65 - 74 (h) more than 75 **Anthropometric Information** Weight: ____kg kg Height: ____cm Waist circumference: _____cm **Child's Information** Child's Name: ☐ Female ☐ Male Gender: School Name: School Year: Date of Birth: **Anthropometric Information** Weight: ____kg ____kg

5

____cm

Height: cm

Waist circumference: _____cm

"Healthy Kids" The Family Way Questionnaire 1



Researcher: Gilly Hendrie
Gilly.Hendrie@csiro.au



About this study

Thank you for agreeing to participate in this study. I appreciate your time to be part

of my research

This study is being undertaken to contribute to an understanding of the family

environment and how parents influence the food and physical activity habits of

children.

Your participation will provide valuable and important information about the family

factors that have a positive influence on children's health. This research aims to find

out about many different household environments and your honesty in responding

will be much appreciated. Whilst you may not personally benefit from the study your

responses to this survey are very important as they will assist in the understanding

and promoting of healthy lifestyles in South Australia.

This questionnaire should take about 35 minutes to complete. We ask you to read

each item and then to respond to each question.

All the information you give us will be treated in the strictest confidence. We do

ask you for some background information (such as age, education level, etc), to allow

us to assess whether people of different ages or backgrounds have different views and

feelings. No personal details will be revealed to anyone other than the project

coordinator and the identifying information will not be attached to the results. You

are free to withdraw from the study at anytime.

If you have any queries please contact the study coordinator, Gilly Hendrie 8303 8936

(email: Gilly.Hendrie@csiro.au). Please return this questionnaire to the coordinator

on completion.

Thank you in advance for your help.

Yours sincerely

guly Attends

Gilly Hendrie

3

347

Section 1

This section asks questions about your understanding of the food and physical activity recommendations that experts are giving us.

The first few items are about what advice you think experts are giving us.

1.Do you	ı thin	k the Di	etary C	Buideli	nes for
Austra	lians	recomn	nends	that	people
should	be	eating	more,	the	same
amoun	t, or l	ess of th	ese foc	ds?	
(tick or	ne box	k per foo	d)		

	More	Same	Less	Not sure	
Vegetables					
Sugary foods					
Meat					
Starchy foods					
Fatty foods					
High fibre foods					
Fruit					
Salty foods					
Dairy products					
vegetables a crecommend prone serve are salad vegetable Fruit	eople a pied es)	eat? ce of fr	(Exar ruit or	nples of 1 cup of	
3.Which fat do important for (tick one)					
(a) monounsatur	ated f	at			
(b) polyunsatura					
(c) saturated fat					
(d) not sure					
4. What version a say people shows (a) full fat (b) low fat (c) both full fat a (d) none, dairy for (e) not sure	ould e	at? <i>(tic</i>	ck one	e)	

Experts classify foods into groups. We are interested to see whether people are aware of what foods are in these groups.

1.Do	you	think	these	are	high	or	low	in
ado	led s	ugar?	(tick or	ne b	ox pe	r fo	od)	

	High	Low N	lot sure
Bananas			
Unflavoured yoghurt			
Ice-cream			
Orange 35% Juice			
Tomato Ketchup			
Tinned fruit in natural juice	9 □		

2.Do you think these are high or low in fat? (tick one box per food)

	High	Low	Not sure
Pasta (without sauce)			
Mayonnaise			
Baked beans			
Lunch/sandwich meat			
Honey			
Vegetarian pastry			
Nuts			
White bread			
Cottage cheese			
Polyunsaturated margaria	ne□		

3.Do you think these are starchy/high carbohydrate foods group? (tick one box per food)

	Yes	No	Not sure
Cheese			
Pasta			
Butter			
Nuts			
Rice			
Porridge			

4. Do you think these are high or low in salt? (tick one box per food)

High Low Not sure

	High	LOW	Not sure
Sausages			
Pasta			
Anchovies			
Red meat			
Frozen vegetables			
Cheese			

5.Do you think thes protein? (tick one li			low in	10.A glass of unsweetened (100%) fruit juice counts as one serve of fruit. (tick
protein: (tick one t			lot Sure	one)
Chicken				(a) agree □
Cheese				(b) disagree □
Fruit				(c) not sure
Baked beans				
Butter				
Cream				11.Saturated fats are mainly found in: (tick
1				_ one)
C.D. vov. think thee	h:	سم ماس	lavv ia	(a) vegetable oil
6.Do you think thes fibre/roughage? (tie				(b) dairy products
iibie/roughage: (iii		Low N		(c) both (a) and (b) □ (d) not sure □
Cornflakes				(d) not sure □
Bananas				-
Eggs				12.Brown sugar is a healthy alternative to
Red meat				white sugar. (tick one)
Broccoli				(a) agree □
Nuts				(b) disagree □
Fish				(c) not sure
Baked potatoes with	skins 🗆			
Chicken				
Baked beans				13.There is more protein in a glass of
				whole milk than in a glass of skim milk.
7.Do you think these	a fatty fo	nde ar	e hiah	(tick one)
or low in saturate			_	(a) agree □
box)	,			(b) disagree □
	High	Low N	lot sure	(c) not sure
Tuna				
Whole milk				14. Polyunsaturated margarine contains
Olive oil				less fat than butter. (tick one)
Red meat				(a) agree □
Sunflower margarine				(b) disagree □
Chocolate				(c) not sure
-				
8.Some foods conta	in a lot	of fat	but no	
cholesterol. (tick or	ne)			15. Which of these bread contain the most
(a) agree				vitamins and minerals? (tick one)
(b) disagree				(a) white bread □
(c) not sure				(b) wholemeal bread
				(c) wholegrain bread □
9.Do you think exper	te call the	oco o h	o althy	(d) not sure □
alternative to red				
per food)	moat. (tion or	io box	
,,	Yes	No I	Not sure	16 Which do no think is higher in
Livernete	163		_	16.Which do yo think is higher in
Liver pate				kilojoules: hutter or regular margaring?
Lunch meats				kilojoules: butter or regular margarine? (tick one)
Lunch meats Baked beans				(tick one)
Lunch meats Baked beans Nuts				(tick one) (a) butter □
Lunch meats Baked beans Nuts Low fat cheese				(tick one) (a) butter □ (b) regular margarine □
Lunch meats Baked beans Nuts Low fat cheese Quiche				(tick one)(a) butter □(b) regular margarine □(c) both the same □
Lunch meats Baked beans Nuts Low fat cheese				 (tick one) (a) butter □ (b) regular margarine □ (c) both the same □

17.A type of oil which contains mostly	1. Which would be the best choice for a low
monounsaturated fat is: (tick one)	fat, high fibre snack? (tick one)
(a) coconut oil	(a) diet strawberry yoghurt
(b) sunflower oil	(b) sultanas
(c) olive oil	(c) muesli bar
(d) palm oil □	(d) wholemeal crackers and cheese
(e) not sure □	-
	2. Which would be the best choice for a low
18.There is more calcium in a glass of	fat, high fibre light meal? (tick one)
whole milk than a glass of skim milk.	(a) grilled chicken
(tick one)	(b) cheese on wholemeal toast
(a) agree □	(c) baked beans on wholemeal toast
(b) disagree □	(d) quiche
(c) not sure	(a) quiche
(c) not suic	
	3. Which kind of sandwich do you think is
19. Which one of the following has the	healthier? (tick one)
most kilojoules for the same weight? (tick	(a) two thick slices of bread with a thin
one)	slice of cheddar cheese
(a) sugar □	(b) two thin slices of bread with a thick
(b) carbohydrate □	slice of cheddar cheese
(c) fibre/roughage □	4.14
(d) fat □	4.Many people eat spaghetti bolognese
(e) not sure □	(pasta with a tomato and meat sauce).
(-)	Which do you think is healthier? (tick
	<i>one)</i> (a) a large amount of pasta with a little bit
20.Harder fats contain more: (tick one)	of sauce on top
(a) monounsaturated fat □	(b) a small amount of pasta with a lot of
(b) polyunsaturated fat □	sauce on top
(c) saturated fat □	
(d) not sure □	5. If a person wanted to reduce the
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	amount of fat in their diet, which would
21.Polyunsaturated fats are mainly found	be the best choice? (tick one)
in: <i>(tick one)</i>	(a) steak, grilled □
(a) vegetables oils □	(b) sausages, grilled □
(b) dairy products □	(c) turkey, grilled □
(c) both (a) and (b) □	(d) pork chop, grilled □
(d) not sure □	(-),
	6.If a person wanted to reduce the amount
	of fat in their diet, but didn't want to give
The next few items are about	up chips, which one would be the best
choosing foods.	choice? (tick one)
Please answer what is being asked and not	(a) thick cut 'chunky' chips □
whether you like or dislike the food. For	(b) thin cut 'french fries' chips □
example, suppose you were asked 'If a person wanted to cut down on fat, which	(c) crinkle cut chips
cheese would be best to eat?"	
(a) cheddar cheese	7. If a person felt like something sweet, but
(b) camembert	was trying to cut down on sugar, which
(c) cream cheese	would be the best choice? (tick one)
(d) cottage cheese	(a) honey on toast
If you didn't like cottage cheese but knew if	(b) a cereal snack bar
was the right answer, you would still tick	(c) plain sweet biscuit $\hfill\Box$
cottage cheese.	(d) banana with plain yoghurt □

8. Which of these would be the healthiest dessert? (tick one) (a) baked apple (b) strawberry yoghurt (c) wholemeal crackers and cheese (d) carrot cake with cream cheese topping	If yes, what diseases or health problems do you think are related to fibre?
9.Which cheese would be the best choice as a lower fat option? (tick one) (a) plain cream cheese (b) edam (c) cheddar (d) brie	3.Are you aware of any major health problems or diseases that are related to how much sugar people eat? (a) yes (b) no
10.If a person wanted to reduce the amount of salt in their diet, which would be the best choice? (tick one) (a) ready made frozen shepherd's pie (b) ham steak with pineapple (c) mushroom omelette (d) stir fry vegetables with soy sauce	If yes, what diseases or health problems do you think are related to sugar?
This section is about health problems or diseases.	
1.Are you aware of any major health problems or diseases that are related to a low intake of fruit and vegetables? (a) yes (b) no (c) not sure If yes, what diseases or health problems do you think are related to a low intake of fruit and vegetables?	4.Are you aware of any major health problems or diseases that are related to how much salt or sodium people eat? (a) yes (b) no (c) not sure If yes, what diseases or health problems do you think are related to salt?
2.Are you aware of any major health	5.Are you aware of any major health problems or diseases that are related to the amount of fat people eat? (a) yes (b) no (c) not sure
problems or diseases that are related to a low intake of fibre? (a) yes □	If yes, what diseases or health problems do you think are related to fat?
(b) no □ (c) not sure □	
(continue on the next page)	

chances of getting certain kinds of cancer? (answer each one) Sure eating more fibre eating less sugar eating less fruit eating less salt eating more fruit and vegetables eating less preservatives/additives	PHYSICAL ACTIVITY MESSAGES To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about physical activity and health. Please answer by circling the appropriate box.
7.Do you think these help prevent heart disease? (answer each one) Yes No Not sure eating more fibre	 Taking the stairs at work or generally being more active for at least 30 minutes each day is enough to improve your health.
eating less saturated fat	Strongly disagree Disagree Disagree Nelther agree nor disagree Strongly agree
9. Which are of these is more likely to	2. Half an hour of brisk walking on most days is enough to improve your health.
 Which one of these is more likely to raise people's blood cholesterol level? (tick one) 	Strongly disagree Dis
(a) antioxidants □ (b) polyunsaturated fats □ (c) saturated fats □ (d) cholesterol in the diet □ (e) not sure □	To improve your health it is essential for you to do vigorous exercise for at least 20 minutes each time, three times a week.
9.Have you heard of antioxidant vitamins?	Strongly disagree Dis
(a) yes (b) no ——————————————————————————————————	 Exercise doesn't have to be done all at the one time – blocks of 10 minutes are okay.
10.If YES to question 9, do you think these are antioxidant vitamins? (answer each one)	Strongly disagree Disagree Disagree Neither agree nor disagree Disagree
Yes No Not sure	5. Moderate exercise that increases your heart rate slightly can improve your health.
Vitamin A	Neither

The following questions refer to what advice you think experts are giving us about <u>CHILDREN'S PHYSICAL ACTIVITY</u>. Please answer by ticking the appropriate box.

6. It is recommended children in vigorous activity.	n participate	Please rate the inten activities. Classify intensity, vigorous inte	them as	s moa	lerate
True False		Modera	ate Vigoro	us Not si	ure
		Mowing the lawn			
7. How many hours per		Aerobics			
children spend using electroni (this includes television, comp		Cooking			
playstation games and the like		Walking the dog			
Loss than 20minutes	_	Jogging			
Less than 30minutes 1 hour		Playing team sports			
2 hour		Circuit training			
3 hours		Fast cycling			
4 hours		Playing the piano			
Not sure		Lap swimming			
8. It is recommended childre for at least?	n are active	10. Which of the activities do you bel physical health b appropriate box.			ysical de a the
10minutes per day				No No	ot sure
20 minutes per day		Walking			
30 minutes per day 60 minutes per day		Aerobics class			
Not sure		Bike riding			
		Dancing			
		Gardening			
		Household cleaning□			
		Jogging/running			
		Playing a musical instr	ument 🗆		
		Moving furniture			
		Preparing meals			
		Raking leaves			

The following questions refer to the

classification and benefits of

different types of activities. Please

answer by ticking the appropriate

Swimming

Cooking

Weight lifting

Section 2

In this section we are interested in your child's physical activity habits and food intake.

This section below refers to your child's physical activity habits. Please think about your child's usual activity habits and respond in the table below.

(from the start of the year, Question 1 Which of the following physical activities does your child usually do during a typical week? and not including school holidays)

During a typical week what activities does your child usually do?	Does you not	Does your child usually do this activity?	Monday	Monday to Friday	Saturday a	Saturday and Sunday	Comment
	Yes	No	How many times?	How long?	How many times?	How long?	Seasonal sports
Eg: cricket	1		1	45 mins	1	1 hour	Term 1 and 4 only
Aerobics							÷
Dance							
Calisthenics/gymnastics							
Tennis/bat tennis							
Aussie Rules Football							
Soccer							
Basketball							
Cricket							
Skip rope							
Baseball/softball							
Netball							
Jog/run							
Swim laps							

	Yes	No	How many times?	How long?	How many times?	How long?	Seasonal sports
Swim for fun							
Tag/chasey							
Bike riding							
Playgroup equipment							
Sports class at school							
Physical education class at school							
Scooter							
Household chores							
Play with pets							
Trampoline							
Play in cubby house							
Walk for exercise							
Walk to school (to and from school = 2)							
Walk the dog							
Skateboard							
Rollerblade							
Downball/4 square							
Bike to school (to and from school = 2)							
Other (please state)							