

effective approach to promoting healthy food choices, and improve child and family health.

Sample:

240 children and families

Measures:

Children

Body Mass Index (BMI)

Peabody Development Motor Scales (PDMS)

Pedometer

Activity Log

Teachers

Body Mass Index (BMI)

Pedometer

Activity Log

Process Questionnaire

Parents

Body Mass Index (BMI)

Parent Questionnaire

Pedometer

Activity Log

Margaret Caspe **

Project Title:

Educational Involvement Among Latino Head Start Families

Mentor:

Gigliana Melzi

Project Funding Years:

2005-2006

University Affiliation:

New York University

Department of Applied Psychology

Project Abstract:

New York University will investigate how educational involvement among Head Start Latino families contributes to young children's subsequent language and literacy development. The specific goals of the project are to: (a) uncover the family literacy patterns of Head Start Latino households in New York City; (b) understand how family literacy contributes to Latino

children's emergent literacy over time; and (c) work in partnership with Head Start teachers and parents to create a strengths-based family literacy project and to determine the influence the project will have on parental satisfaction with and participation in a family literacy program and teachers' perceptions of parents' educational involvement. The project will collect family literacy data on 90 Latino families to assess family literacy patterns and children's literacy skills. The first wave of the project will involve culturally appropriate observations and surveys conducted through home visits to investigate family literacy patterns. In the second wave, the project will assess children's literacy skills as a function of family literacy practices. The third and final wave of the study will incorporate previous findings to develop a family literacy program for Latino children. Results of the project are expected to advance knowledge about Latino children's literacy development and provide information about how Head Start programs could improve services for Latino Families.

Sample:

90 Latino Families

Measures:

Parents

Family Literacy Practices

Family Involvement Questionnaire

Mother-Child Book-Reading Task

Children

James Language Dominance Test

Concepts about Print

Letter Identification

Narrative Task

Feelings about Literacy

Katherine Driscoll **

Project Title:

Banking Time: Effectiveness of an Intervention Designed to Promote Supportive Teacher-Child Relationships

Mentor:

Robert Pianta

Project Funding Years:

2005-2006