

Sarocho Nantapong 2013: Factors Related to Parents' Meal Providing Behavior for Preschool Children of Public School in Chumphon Province. Master of Arts (Home Economics Education), Major Field: Home Economics Education, Department of Vocational Education. Thesis Advisor: Assistant Professor Narumon Saratapun, Ph.D. 120 pages.

The purposes of study were to investigate: 1) knowledge on nutrition for preschool children 2) behavior concerning meal providing for preschool children and 3) the relationship between knowledge on nutrition and meal providing behavior. 4) the relationship between personal factors and meal providing behavior for preschool children of public school in Chumphon province. A questionnaire was used for data collection. A multi-stage random sampling technique was used to draw a sample of 400 preschool parents from public school in Chumphon Province. Data analysis was comprised of percentage mean, Pearson's product moment correlation coefficient and Chi-square test; a using computer program.

The findings of this study were as follows: 72.5 percent of preschool parents were female, 68.4 percent were between 31 to 50 years old, 40.5 percent held secondary education and 40.8 percent were business owners or housewives, 40.5 percent were self-employed preschool parents earned 10,000 baht or less monthly.

The results showed that 52.8 percent of preschool parents had a high level of knowledge concerning nutrition and 40.2 percent had frequently provided meals for their preschool children. Their knowledge on nutrition related to meal providing behavior for preschool children at the .01 level. ($r = .21$, $p = .000$) and personal factors related to meal providing behavior for preschool children of public school in Chumphon province.

Student's signature

Thesis Advisor's signature