


Fisher, J.A. (2009). 'We used to play in foundation, it was more funner': investigating feelings about transition from foundation stage to year 1. *Early Years: An International Journal of Research and Development*, 29(2), 131-145.


Additional important references consulted


ADDENDA

Addendum A: Documents related to research methodology and strategy

A-1* Grade R sessions 2009
A-2* Grade 1 sessions 2010
A-3* Grade 2 sessions 2011
A-4 Example of a questionnaire for a semi-structured interview with the mother of the individuals within a twinship
A-5 Example of a questionnaire for a semi-structured interview with the Grade R, Grade 1 and Grade 2 teachers of the individuals within a twinship

Addendum B: Official documentation

B-1 Ethical clearance certificate
B-2 Example of an informed consent form (child participants)
B-3 Example of informed consent forms (adult participants)
B-4 Consent letter from Gauteng Department of Education 2009
B-5 Consent letter from Gauteng Department of Education 2010

Addenda * – see compact disc
ADDENDA A-1 – A-3

Addenda *: See compact disc

- A-1* Grade R sessions 2009
- A-2* Grade 1 sessions 2010
- A-3* Grade 2 sessions 2011
Questionnaire for semi-structured interview with the mother of the individuals within a twinship

1. What is your opinion regarding life skills in general?

2. What would you point out as the most important life skills for your children’s transition and why?

3. Name most common excitements / concerns according to your children regarding the transitions from Grade R through to Grade 2.

4. How do they individually handle the above mentioned stressors?

5. Please give a detailed description of each of the individuals within a twinships’ individual personalities as well as their strengths and weaknesses.

6. Do you think the twins have an impact on each other? If yes, please elaborate.

7. As parent, what is you experience of the transition period?

8. How do you handle the above mentioned?

9. Please describe your family in general?

10. Which life skills do you think are necessary for young children during their transition from Grade R through to Grade 2?

11. What are the perceived stressors experienced or identified by each of your children during the transition from Grade R through to Grade 2?

12. Which coping strategies are currently being used by the individuals within a twinship regarding certain identified stressors, before life skill facilitation took place?

13. Which coping strategies are being used by the individuals within a twinship regarding certain identified stressors, after life skill facilitation took place?

14. How do their Grade R, Grade 1 and Grade 2 teachers facilitate and mediate life skills to each one of the individuals within a twinship?
1. From your experience, what do you view as important life skills necessary for the transition from Grade R through to Grade 2 and why?

2. What would you name as the most common stressors (positive and negative) for learners during the transition from Grade R through to Grade 2?

3. Please give me your opinion regarding life skills during the transition period in general?

4. What methods are currently being used by teachers for the teaching of life skills for the learners?

5. Do you think there are barriers for (a) teaching and (b) learning life skills? If yes, what are they?

6. As a teacher, is it easy for you to teach life skills? Do you feel there is a place for life skills during the transition from Grade R through to Grade 2 or not and why?

7. If you think about the transition from Grade R through to Grade 2, please give 5 words to describe this specific period.
Ethical clearance certificate

RESEARCH ETHICS COMMITTEE

CLEARANCE CERTIFICATE

DEGREE AND PROJECT
PhD
The transition of individuals within a twinship from Grade R through to Grade 2

INVESTIGATOR(S)
Elaney Nieuwenhuizen

DEPARTMENT
Educational Psychology

DATE CONSIDERED
17 July 2012

DECISION OF THE COMMITTEE
APPROVED

Please note:
For Masters applications, ethical clearance is valid for 2 years
For PhD applications, ethical clearance is valid for 3 years.

CHAIRPERSON OF ETHICS COMMITTEE
Prof L Ebersohn

DATE
17 July 2012

CC
Jeannie Beukes
Prof. Irma Eloff

This ethical clearance certificate is issued subject to the following conditions:
1. A signed personal declaration of responsibility
2. If the research question changes significantly so as to alter the nature of the study, a new application for ethical clearance must be submitted
3. It remains the students’ responsibility to ensure that all the necessary forms for informed consent are kept for future queries.

Please quote the clearance number in all enquiries.
LETTER OF INFORMED CONSENT TO A MINOR CHILD

A research project of the University of Pretoria

The transition of individuals within a twinship from Grade R through to Grade 2

To be read to children under the age of 18 years

Wat maak ons hier?
Partykeer wil mense sekere dinge uitvind. Dit word ‘n projek genoem. Om dit te kan doen, het hulle sekere mense of kinders nodig om hulle te help. Ek is besig met ‘n projek en wil vir julle vra of julle my wil help en wil deelneem aan hierdie projek. As julle besluit om deel te neem aan hierdie projek, gaan ons lekker saam gesels, ons gaan speletjies speel en ‘n hele dagboek maak vir elkeen waarin ons alles gaan bêre wat ons gemaak het sodat julle oor en oor daarna kan kyk en kan gebruik. Hierdie projek gaan oor kinders soos julle wat nou in Graad R is en wat in die volgende twee jaar Graad 1 en Graad 2 toe gaan. Ons gaan gesels oor wat julle opgewonde maak oor Graad 1 en Graad 2, oor sekere dinge wat julle wil uitvind oor Graad 1 en Graad 2 en hoe julle voel om na Graad 1 en Graad 2 toe te gaan.

Ek gaan ook vir julle juffrouens en vir mamma en pappa vra om ons ook te help met die projek. Ek wil ook vir julle sekere dinge leer wat julle miskien kan gebruik in Graad 1 en in Graad 2 om vir julle te help en wat dalk Graad 1 en Graad 2 net nog lekkerder kan maak. Ek gaan vir julle ook meer vertel van Graad 1 en Graad 2 en hoe dit anders gaan wees as Graad R waarin julle nou is. Mamma en pappa het gesê julle mag deelneem aan die projek, nou moet julle net besluit of julle wil deelneem of nie?

Wat gaan met ons gebeur?
As julle gaan besluit om deel te neem aan hierdie projek, gaan ek een dag, elke tweede week na julle huis toe kom as julle terug is van die skool. Dan gaan ons by julle huis gesels en speel. Ek gaan ook nou en dan na julle skool toe gaan waar ek gaan kyk hoe dit daar lyk en wat julle alles daar doen. Ek gaan ook met julle juffrouens gesels. In hierdie projek gaan daar nie regte of verkeerde antwoorde wees nie. Alles wat julle gaan doen en vir my gaan vertel gaan reg wees. Net soos wat julle pappa ‘n gereedskapboks het waarin hy alles bêre om dinge by julle huis reg te maak en beter te maak, gaan ons saam vir julle ‘n Graad 1 en Graad 2 gereedskapboks maak wat vir julle dalk kan help om Graad 1 en Graad 2 makliker en lekkerder te maak.
Die ander kinders by die skool gaan nie weet dat julle my help nie. Ek gaan nie vir hulle vertel van julle nie. Ek gaan ook niks vir julle juffrouens of maats vertel wat julle vir my vertel nie. As julle sê ek mag, dan gaan ek elke keer as ons gesels dit op ‘n band opneem sodat ek weer daarna kan luister. Ek wil ook by julle hoor of ek mag fotos neem oor alles wat ons gaan maak. Ek sal nie julle gesigte afneem nie. Ek gaan ook nie vir niemand sê wat julle name is nie.

Gaan ons seerkry?
Nee, glad nie. As julle moeg raak terwyl ons besig is, dan sê julle net vir my julle is moeg dan rus ons bietjie, of dan kom ek op ‘n ander dag weer terug as julle weer lus het om aan te gaan. Julle hoef ook nie al die vrae wat ek vir julle gaan vra te beantwoord nie, net die wat julle wil antwoord. As ons iets gaan speel en julle wil nie aan die speletjie deelneem nie, dan sê julle net vir my dan hoef julle nie daaraan deel te neem nie. Ek gaan nooit kwaad raak vir julle as julle nie aan iets wil deelneem nie. Ek gaan ook nie met julle raas nie.

Gaan hierdie projek vir ons help?
Ek hoop dat hierdie projek vir julle sal help in Graad 1 en in Graad 2. Ek hoop dat dit wat ek vir julle wil leer en wil wys vir julle sal help in Graad 1 en Graad 2 sodat dit lekker jare sal wees, en al is daar minder lekker dae, dat julle dit wat ons gaan leer kan gebruik om vir julle te help. Ek hoop ook dat hierdie projek vir julle sal help om julleself te help en dat julle nuwe dinge sal leer wat vir julle kan help in sekere situasies.

Wat as ons vrae het?
Julle mag enige tyd vir my vrae vra oor hierdie projek. As julle nie nou aan enige vrae kan dink wat julle wil vra nie, kan julle vir my later bel by 082 822 5394 of vir die tannie wat vir my help. Haar naam is Professor Irma Eloff en haar nommer is 012 420 5721. Julle kan ook vir my julle vrae vraas julle my weer sien of julle kan vir mamma en pappa vra om vir my te vrae as julle nie self wil nie.

Weet ons ouers van hierdie projek?
Ja, ek het al vir mamma en pappa vertel van hierdie projek en vir hulle verduidelik wat ons gaan doen as julle besluit om ook deel te neem. Julle hoef nie nou dadelik te besluit of julle wil deelneem nie. As ek huis toe gaan kan julle eers met mamma en pappa gesels daaroor en later vir my sê.
Moet ons deelneem?
Nee, julle hoef nie. Niemand sal kwaad wees vir julle as julle nie wil deelneem nie. Julle moet sê of julle wil deel wees of nie. As julle nou ja sê en later besluit maar eintlik wil julle nie, dan mag julle ophou. Dit is julle besluit.

a) As julle julle name op hierdie papier skryf, dan beteken dit dat julle ja sê om deel te neem aan hierdie projek en dat julle weet waaroor hierdie projek gaan en wat met julle gaan gebeur. As julle later wil ophou, dan moet julle net vir my sê dan hou ons dadelik op.

Handtekening van leerder ________________ Datum ________________
Handtekening van navorser ________________ Datum ________________

b) As julle nou weer julle name hier gaan skryf, beteken dit dat julle ja sê dat ek ons gesprekke op 'n band mag opneem asook fotos mag neem van die werk wat ons gaan doen. Ek gaan nie julle name vir enige iemand gee nie. As julle nie wil hê ek mag ons gesprekke op 'n band opneem of fotos neem nie, dan moet julle vir my sê dan doen ek dit nie.

Handtekening van leerder ________________ Datum ________________
Handtekening van navorser ________________ Datum ________________

As julle enige verdere vrae oor hierdie projek het dan kan julle vir my skakel by 082 822 5394 of vir Prof Irma Eloff by 012 420 5721. As julle enige verdere vrae het oor wat jou regte as deelnemer is dan kan julle die Etiese Kommitee van die Universiteit van Pretoria se Opvoedkunde Fakulteit skakel by 012 420 3751.

Baie dankie

Elanéy Nieuwenhuizen
Dear Parent(s)

Your twin boys are invited to participate in a study. The following information regarding the study is provided so that you can decide if you would like your children to take part. You must be aware that your children’s participation is voluntary and that they may withdraw from the study at any time.

The study is being undertaken by Elaney Nieuwenhuizen. I am currently busy with my PhD Learning support, Guidance and Counselling in Educational Psychology at the University of Pretoria. My supervisor for the study is Prof. Irma Eloff, Dean of the Faculty of Education at the University of Pretoria. My research involves an in-depth look at the transition of individuals within a twinship from Grade R through to Grade 2.

This research process includes the intervention of certain life skills to the children through informal play and worksheets during bi-weekly visits to their home. Observation of the children at their school environment will also be part of the study as well as interviews with the teachers and the parents of the children involved. All activities that your children participate in, will remain confidential, as well as anonymous. No human rights may be violated during the study. At the end of the study I undertake to discuss the initial findings with all participants.

If you have any queries, before, during or after the study, you are welcome to contact me or Prof. Eloff.

Thank you in advance

Elaney Nieuwenhuizen
082 822 5394

Professor Irma Eloff
(012) 420 5721
DECLARATION

I/We have read the above and understand what the goal of the study is. I/We understand what activities my/our child will be involved in. I/We understand that his/her participation is voluntary and that he/she may withdraw at any time. I/We understand that all information will be handled confidentially and that his/her identity will remain anonymous. I/We hereby confirm that our child will participate in the study. I/we undertake to direct any queries to the researcher or the supervisor.

_______________________     _______________
Signature of Parent(s)        Date

_______________________     _______________
Signature of Researcher       Date
DECLARATION FORM FOR TEACHERS

Dear teacher

You are invited to participate in a study. The following information regarding the study is provided so that you can decide whether you would like you to take part. You must be aware that your participation is voluntary and that you may withdraw from the study at any time.

The study is being undertaken by Elaney Nieuwenhuizen. I am currently busy with my PhD Learning support, Guidance and Counselling in Educational Psychology at the University of Pretoria. My supervisor for the study is Prof. Irma Eloff, Dean of the Faculty of Education at the University of Pretoria. My research involves an in-depth look at the transition of individuals within a twinship from Grade R through to Grade 2.

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If you have any queries, before, during or after the study, you are welcome to contact me or Prof. Eloff.

Thank you in advance

Elaney Nieuwenhuizen                Professor Irma Eloff.
082 822 5394                        (012) 420 5721
DECLARATION

I have read the above and understand what the goal of the study is. I understand what activities I will be involved in. I understand that my participation is voluntary and that I may withdraw at any time. I understand that all information will be handled confidentially and that my identity will remain anonymous. I hereby confirm that I will participate in the study. I undertake to direct any queries to the researcher or the supervisor.

_____________________     _______________
Signature of Teacher     Date

_____________________     _______________
Signature of Researcher     Date
DECLARATION FORM FOR PARENTS

Dear parent(s)

You are invited to participate in a study. The following information regarding the study is provided so that you can decide whether you would like you to take part. You must be aware that your participation is voluntary and that you may withdraw from the study at any time.

The study is being undertaken by Elaney Nieuwenhuizen. I am currently busy with my PhD Learning support, Guidance and Counselling in Educational Psychology at the University of Pretoria. My supervisor for the study is Prof. Irma Eloff, Dean of the Faculty of Education at the University of Pretoria. My research involves an in-depth look at the transition of individuals within a twinship from Grade R through to Grade 2.

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Thank you in advance

Elaney Nieuwenhuizen
082 822 5394

Professor Irma Eloff.
(012) 420 5721
DECLARATION

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_____________________     _______________
Signature of Parent      Date

_____________________     _______________
Signature of Researcher     Date
Date: 17 November 2009

Name of Researcher: Nieuwenhuizen Elaney

Address of Researcher: 13A Dartmoorroad
Florida Hills
1716

Telephone Number: 0828225394
Fax Number: N/A

Research Topic: The Mediating Effect of Life Skills on Possible Stressors of Twins in their Transition from Pre-School to Grade 1

Number and type of schools: 1 Primary School and 1 ECD Site

District/s/HO: Johannesburg West

Re: Approval in Respect of Request to Conduct Research

This letter serves to indicate that approval is hereby granted to the above-mentioned researcher to proceed with research in respect of the study indicated above. The onus rests with the researcher to negotiate appropriate and relevant time schedules with the school/s and/or offices involved to conduct the research. A separate copy of this letter must be presented to both the School (both Principal and SGB) and the District/Head Office Senior Manager confirming that permission has been granted for the research to be conducted.

Permission has been granted to proceed with the above study subject to the conditions listed below being met, and may be withdrawn should any of these conditions be flouted:

1. The District/Head Office Senior Manager/s concerned must be presented with a copy of this letter that would indicate that the said researcher/s has/have been granted permission from the Gauteng Department of Education to conduct the research study.
2. The District/Head Office Senior Manager/s must be approached separately, and in writing, for permission to involve District/Head Office Officials in the project.
3. A copy of this letter must be forwarded to the school principal and the chairperson of the School Governing Body (SGB) that would indicate that the researcher/s have been granted permission from the Gauteng Department of Education to conduct the research study.
4. A letter / document that outlines the purpose of the research and the anticipated outcomes of such research must be made available to the principals, SGBs and District/Head Office Senior Managers of the schools and districts/offices concerned, respectively.

5. The Researcher will make every effort obtain the goodwill and co-operation of all the GDE officials, principals, and chairpersons of the SGBs, teachers and learners involved. Persons who offer their co-operation will not receive additional remuneration from the Department while those that opt not to participate will not be penalised in any way.

6. Research may only be conducted after school hours so that the normal school programme is not interrupted. The Principal (if at a school) and/or Director (if at a district/head office) must be consulted about an appropriate time when the researcher/s may carry out their research at the sites that they manage.

7. Research may only commence from the second week of February and must be concluded before the beginning of the last quarter of the academic year.

8. Items 6 and 7 will not apply to any research effort being undertaken on behalf of the GDE. Such research will have been commissioned and be paid for by the Gauteng Department of Education.

9. It is the researcher’s responsibility to obtain written parental consent of all learners that are expected to participate in the study.

10. The researcher is responsible for supplying and utilising his/her own research resources, such as stationery, photocopies, transport, faxes and telephones and should not depend on the goodwill of the institutions and/or the offices visited for supplying such resources.

11. The names of the GDE officials, schools, principals, parents, teachers and learners that participate in the study may not appear in the research report without the written consent of each of these individuals and/or organisations.

12. On completion of the study the researcher must supply the Director: Knowledge Management & Research with one Hard Cover bound and one Ring bound copy of the final, approved research report. The researcher would also provide the said manager with an electronic copy of the research abstract/summary and/or annotation.

13. The researcher may be expected to provide short presentations on the purpose, findings and recommendations of his/her research to both GDE officials and the schools concerned.

14. Should the researcher have been involved with research at a school and/or a district/head office level, the Director concerned must also be supplied with a brief summary of the purpose, findings and recommendations of the research study.

The Gauteng Department of Education wishes you well in this important undertaking and looks forward to examining the findings of your research study.

Kind regards

Pp Nomvula Ubisi
Martha Mashego
ACTING DIRECTOR: KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT & RESEARCH

The contents of this letter has been read and understood by the researcher.

| Signature of Researcher: |  |
| Date: |  |
## Approval in Respect of Request to Conduct Research

dated 20 January 2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Name of Researcher</td>
<td>Nieuwenhuizen Elaney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Address of Researcher</td>
<td>13A Dartmoorroad Florida Hills</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone Number</td>
<td>0828225394</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fax Number</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research Topic</td>
<td>The Mediating Effect of Life Skills on Possible Stressors of Twins in their Transition from Pre-School to Grade 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number and type of schools</td>
<td>1 Primary School and 1 ECD Site</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District/s/HO</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Permission has been granted to proceed with the above study subject to the conditions listed below being met, and may be withdrawn should any of these conditions be flouted:

1. The District/Head Office Senior Manager/s concerned must be presented with a copy of this letter that would indicate that the said researcher/s has/have been granted permission from the Gauteng Department of Education to conduct the research study.
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5. The Researcher will make every effort obtain the goodwill and co-operation of all the GDE officials, principals, and chairpersons of the SGBs, teachers and learners involved. Persons who offer their co-operation will not receive additional remuneration from the Department while those that opt not to participate will not be penalised in any way.

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Kind regards

Pp Nomvula Ubisi
Martha Mashego
ACTING DIRECTOR: KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT & RESEARCH

The contents of this letter has been read and understood by the researcher.

Signature of Researcher: 

Date: 

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