

**Title:** Using photovoice to explore the reach of a school-based health promotion intervention into the home environment

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**Objective:** The prevalence of sedentary behaviours, physical inactivity, and poor diets is a major public health problem. The school and home environments play a significant role in influencing such behaviours. While school-based health promotion interventions have proven effective, it is unknown if the behaviours learned are adopted within the home environment. Research regarding the translation of behaviours from school to home is limited, and existing approaches typically rely on parental perceptions to identify such changes. The purpose of this research was to use student perspectives to examine if participation in a school-based health promotion intervention, the Alberta Project Promoting active Living and healthy Eating in Schools (APPLE Schools), impacts the home environment.

**Methods:** This research was guided by community-based participatory research, which is rooted in ethnography and involves the co-creation of knowledge between the researcher and participants. Photovoice was used as the data generating strategy. Grade 5 students attending an APPLE School were purposively sampled (n=30), and asked to take photos of what APPLE Schools looks like in their home environments. Consistent with photovoice protocols, subsequent one-on-one interviews were conducted with participants to gain a deeper understanding of student perceptions. Interviews were audio-recorded and transcribed verbatim. Data collection and latent content analysis occurred concurrently and is ongoing (n=20 interviews completed). Student participants will aid in the analytic process during a follow-up session to ensure accurate representation of the findings through member checking.

**Results:** Preliminary results indicate that students are not only translating behaviours to the home, but that they are the drivers of change regarding these behaviours. Students acted as advocates for their whole family and frequently reported changing household eating habits (influencing purchasing and consumption of healthier foods), increasing time spent being active, and the importance of getting enough sleep.

**Conclusions:** This research provides evidence that health behaviours learned in school are translated into the home environment. The results contribute to the overall evaluation of APPLE Schools and the evidence-base for school-based health promotion interventions. This research provides much needed insight into the views of students, and informs us about the reach of APPLE Schools beyond the school setting.