

Examples of topics children and young people choose to research to inspire

As an **adult practitioner** you may be surprised and enlightened by the breadth of young people's interests.

As a **young person** you may be pleased to see the wide range of topics that young people have been helped to research.

Children and young people are interested in researching a broad range of topics. Their interests go beyond their own immediate concerns. Here is just a sample of actual research projects children have led with the Open University.

- Links between extra-curricular music and future aspirations
- Whether playing a musical instrument affects how good you are at maths
- The impact of subject enjoyment on subject achievement
- Year 6 children's emotions towards KS2 statutory tests (SATs)
- How confidence affects literacy
- The social aspects of home-schooling
- The environments children prefer for doing their homework in
- Gender differences in pupils' use of computers
- Children's views about school hours
- Social interaction between children and lunchtime supervisors
- Children's views of after-school clubs
- Children's views of first-aid training
- Children's worries
- Children and bereavement
- What do children and young people think about parenting issues?
- Children's experiences of having a thyroid disorder
- The social nature of television viewing in children:
- Children's views of television and literacy
- Children's views of scouting and guiding
- Investigating views of pupils about mixed gender football
- Children's views on payment for different jobs
- How children are affected by the nature of their parents' jobs
- Getting around as the child of a wheelchair user
- Children's views of their local parks
- Children's views of their local housing estates
- Safety at bus stops: children's points of view
- What children and adults think about community police
- Exploring people's views on water use
- Public opinion about nuclear and wind power
- The public's opinion on cloning
- What families think about global warming

Original research by children and young people

Each available to view at: The OU Children's Research Centre:

<http://wels.open.ac.uk/research/childrens-research-centre/children-and-young-peoples-voices/child-and-student-led-0>

- *What year 4 children think about iPads and their learning*
- *I am investigating the opinions of people who like football*
- *Researching deeper into children's rights*
- *The right to have an opinion*
- *What do boys and their mothers in my housing society think about street dogs*
- *Care in the community*
- *An investigation into attitudes to development of rural villages*
- *What do the local community think about the dental health provision in Bedford?*
- *Community Safety*
- *What do my local community think about the provision of takeaway meals in their area?*
- *What children think about having a thyroid disorder: a small-scale study*

Research projects with children and young people

Each available to view at: The OU Children's Research Centre:

<http://wels.open.ac.uk/research/ccw/projects>

- The *Adwareness* study: Food marketing in social media
- The Science of Persuasion
- Monitoring food marketing to children: creating protocols and identifying global best practice
- What is good to eat? What does healthy mean? Children's views of eating, food and health
- Why do adults give food treats to children?
- Interventions promoting healthy eating in under-5s: Systematic review
- Fanfiction, identity and young people's wellbeing
- Dancemotion

Our Voices

Research **with** and **by** Children and Young People
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