

British Cohort Study
2004 Follow Up
**Guide to Child
Paper Questionnaires**
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First Edition

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All cohort members (parents) who were part of the 1 in 2 who took part in the Parent and Child Interview were asked to complete a paper self-completion questionnaire about each of their natural and adopted children who were living with them at the time the interview took place.

The questionnaires included questions on the child's behaviour, the relationship between the parent (cohort member) and child, the parenting style of the cohort member in relation to rules and discipline, reading and learning activities. In addition to these, if a child was under 3 years, parents answered questions on the child's cognitive development. This was not included for children age 3 and over as these children completed cognitive assessments.

There were four different questionnaires as questions were necessarily specific to reflect the age of a child. (Some minor routing was also necessary within the questionnaires about the younger children, as a child's development during the first few years is very rapid.) The data provided from each of these four questionnaires are deposited in four separate datasets. The questionnaires were produced in different colours to help ensure the interviewers always gave the parent the appropriate questionnaire, and the names of the datasets correspond to these colours.

Age of child	Colour of questionnaire	Name of dataset
0 - 11 months	pink	<i>bcs70pc_0to11mths.sav</i>
1 – 2 years 11 months	blue	<i>bcs70pc_1to2yr11mths.sav</i>
3 – 5 years 11 months	green	<i>bcs70pc_3to5yr11mths.sav</i>
6 – 16 years 11 months	lilac	<i>bcs70pc_6to16yr11mths.sav</i>

Mapping the content in the four questionnaires and datasets

Across the different areas of questioning included there is much similarity and overlap in content across questionnaires. This document 'maps' which questions

in each of the questionnaires are either identical or from the same scale or topic area, to minimise time spent by a researcher navigating through the questionnaires and datasets. The question number in the individual questionnaire is always the variable name in the corresponding dataset.

For example, the question ‘*Approximately how many books does your child have (including books shared with brothers and sisters)?*’ is asked in each questionnaire. The question number or variable name is:

q10 – in the **pink** questionnaire and *bcs70pc_0to11mths.sav* dataset

q10 – in the **blue** questionnaire and *bcs70pc_1to2yr11mths.sav* dataset

q17 – in the **green** questionnaire and *bcs70pc_3to5yr11mths.sav* dataset

q16 – in the **lilac** questionnaire and *bcs70pc_6to16yr11mths.sav.sav* dataset

The ‘mapping’ information is presented in simple table format, for example

	Pink (0-11mths)	Blue (1-2yrs 11mths)	Green (3-5yrs 11mths)	Lilac (6-16yrs 11mths)
Approximately how many books does your child have (including books shared with brothers and sisters)	Q10	Q10	Q17	Q16

The questions that are included in the four paper self-completion questionnaires are mapped out by topic area in the following order:

- a. Early cognitive development
- b. A child’s behaviour / temperament
- c. Relationship between Parent and Child
- d. Parenting Style (Discipline)
- e. Reading and Learning

A) Questions on early cognitive development

These questions were used in the similar National Child Development Study (NCDS) Mother and Child Survey in 1991 (ref). There are 15 questions for parents to answer. Questions are age-specific, but there is a lot of overlap between the different age groups which are split into 3 month intervals, i.e. 0-3 months, 4-6 months, 7-9 months, etc, up to 21 months. From 22 months to 35 months, the 15 questions are the same. Response options are 'yes', 'no', 'not sure'. Table 1 shows how the questions map across children of different age bands from 0 to 35 months.

Table 1: Early cognitive development questions

QUESTION	PINK (age in months)				BLUE (age in months)				
	0-3	4-6	7-9	10-11	12	13-15	16-18	19-21	22-35
When lying on his or her stomach, has your child ever turned his or her head from side to side?	Q1a								
Have your child's eyes ever followed a moving object?	Q1b								
When lying on his or her stomach on a flat surface, has your child ever lifted his or her head off the surface for a moment?	Q1c								
Have your child's eyes ever followed a moving object all the way from one side to the other?	Q1d								
Has your child ever smiled at someone when that person talked or smiled at (but did not touch) him or her?	Q1e								
When lying on his or her stomach, has your child ever raised his or her head <i>and</i> chest from the surface while resting his or her weight on his or her lower arms or hands?	Q1f								
Has your child ever turned his or her head around to look at something?	Q1g								
While lying on his or her back and being pulled up to a sitting position, has your child ever held his or her head stiffly so that it <i>did not</i> hang back as he or she was pulled up?	Q1h	Q3a							
Has your child ever laughed out loud without being tickled or touched?	Q1i	Q3b							
Has your child ever held in one hand a moderate sized object, such as a block or rattle?	Q1j	Q3c							
Has your child ever rolled over on his or her own <i>on purpose</i> ?	Q1k	Q3d							
Has your child ever seemed to enjoy looking in the mirror at him or herself?	Q1l	Q3e	Q4a						
Has your child ever been pulled from a sitting to a standing position and supported his or her own weight with legs stretched out?	Q1m	Q3f	Q4b						
Has your child ever turned his or her head around to look at something? / Has your child ever looked around for a toy which was lost or not nearby?	Q1n	Q3g	Q4c						
Has your child ever sat alone with no help except for leaning forward on his or her hands or with just a little help	Q1o	Q3h	Q4d						

QUESTION	PINK (age in months)				BLUE (age in months)				
	0-3	4-6	7-9	10-11	12	13-15	16-18	19-21	22-35
from someone else?									
Has your child ever sat for 10 minutes or more with no support at all?		Q3i	Q4e						
Has your child ever pulled him or herself to a standing position without help from another person?		Q3j	Q4f						
Has your child ever crawled when left lying on his or her stomach?		Q3k	Q4g	Q5a	Q1a				
Has your child ever said any recognisable words such as 'mama' or 'dada'?		Q3l	Q4h	Q5b	Q1b				
Has your child ever picked up any small objects, such as raisins or biscuit crumbs, using only his or her thumb and first finger?		Q3m	Q4i	Q5c	Q1c				
Has your child ever walked at least two steps with one hand held or holding on to something?		Q3n	Q4j	Q5d	Q1d				
Has your child ever waved goodbye without help from another person?		Q3o	Q4k	Q5e	Q1e	Q2a			
Has your child ever shown by his or her behaviour that he or she knows the name of common objects when somebody else names them out loud?			Q4l	Q5f	Q1f	Q2b			
Has your child ever shown that he or she wanted something by pointing, pulling, or making pleasant sounds, rather than by crying or whining?			Q4m	Q5g	Q1g	Q2c			
Has your child ever stood alone on his or her feet for 10 seconds or more without holding on to anything or another person?			Q4n	Q5h	Q1h	Q2d			
Has your child ever walked at least two steps without holding on to anything or another person?			Q4o	Q5i	Q1i	Q2e	Q3a		
Has your child ever crawled up at least two stairs or steps?				Q5j	Q1j	Q2f	Q3b		
Has your child ever said two recognisable words besides 'mama' or 'dada'?				Q5k	Q1k	Q2g	Q3c		
Has your child ever run?				Q5l	Q1l	Q2h	Q3d	Q4a	
Has your child ever said the names of a familiar object, such as a ball?				Q5m	Q1m	Q2i	Q3e	Q4b	
Has your child ever made a line with a crayon or pencil?				Q5n	Q1n	Q2j	Q3f	Q4c	
Has your child ever walked up at least two stairs with one hand held or holding the railing?				Q5o	Q1o	Q2k	Q3g	Q4d	

QUESTION	PINK (age in months)				BLUE (age in months)				
	0-3	4-6	7-9	10-11	12	13-15	16-18	19-21	22-35
Has your child ever fed himself or herself with a spoon or fork without spilling much?						Q2l	Q3h	Q4e	
Has your child ever let someone know, without crying, that wearing wet (soiled) underclothing or nappies bothers him or her?						Q2m	Q3i	Q4f	Q5a
Has your child ever spoken a partial sentence of three words or more?						Q2n	Q3j	Q4g	Q5b
Has your child ever walked up stairs by himself or herself without holding on to a rail?						Q2o	Q3k	Q4h	Q5c
Has your child ever washed and dried his or her hands without any help except for turning the water on and off?							Q3l	Q4i	Q5d
Has your child ever counted three objects correctly?							Q3m	Q4j	Q5e
Has your child ever gone to the toilet or used a potty alone?							Q3n	Q4k	Q5f
Has your child ever walked up stairs by himself or herself with no help, stepping on each step with only one foot?							Q3o	Q4l	Q5g
Does your child know his or her own age <i>and</i> sex?								Q4m	Q5h
Has your child ever said the names of at least four colours?								Q4n	Q5i
Has your child ever pedalled a tricycle at least 10 feet?								Q4o	Q5j
Has your child ever done a head over heels without help from anybody?									Q5k
Has your child ever dressed him or herself without any help except for tying of shoes (and buttoning the backs of dresses)?									Q5l
Has your child ever said his or her first and last name together without someone's help? (Nicknames may be used for first name).									Q5m
Has your child ever counted out loud up to 10?									Q5n
Has your child ever drawn a picture of a man or woman with at least two parts of the body besides a head?									Q5o

B) Questions on a child's behaviour

These questions were taken from two sources. Parents of children up to age 3 were asked 20 questions from *The Carey Temperament Scales*¹; parents of children between age 3 and 16 years 11 months were asked to complete the *Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire*².

The Carey Temperament Scales

The scales are appropriate for children up to age 3. There are three different scales depending on the age of the child. The complete scales contain between 76 and 97 questions. There are 6 response options ranging from 'almost never' to 'almost always', including 'don't know/not applicable'.

- Early Infant Temperament Scale (0-3 months): 76 questions
- Revised Infant Temperament Scale (4-11 months): 95 questions
- Toddler Temperament Scale (1 year to 2 years 11 months): 97 questions

Within each scale, nine aspects of a child's behaviour are measured by between 8 to 13 questions. Some questions from the Revised Infant Temperament Scale were included in the second sweep of the MCS in 2003-2004, and measured Adaptability, Mood, Approach and Rhythmicity. The same questions were used in this survey to maintain some consistency between cohorts, with additional questions selected to make 20 in total. Five questions related to each of the four aspects of behaviour covered. The questions were selected to be as similar as possible for the three age groups. These questions are detailed in Tables 2 to 5.

¹ Fullard, W., McDevitt, S., Carey, W. (1968) first developed *The Carey Temperament Scales* (1968). Published by Behavioral-Development Initiatives, 14636 North 55th Street, Scottsdale, AZ 85254.

² Goodman, R. (1997) The Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire: A Research Note. *Journal of Child Psychology and Psychiatry*, 38, 581-586.

Table 2: ‘Mood’ questions from the Carey Temperament Scales

PINK		BLUE
0-3 months	4-11 months	1 year – 2 years 11 months
Q2a: Your child smiles or coos during nail cutting	Q6a: Your child makes happy sounds (coos, laughs) when having his or her nappy changed, or being dressed	Q6a: Your child laughs or smiles when meeting other children
Q2b: Your child is pleasant, lies quietly, making happy noises upon waking up	Q6b: Your child is pleasant (smiles, laughs) when first arriving in unfamiliar places (friend’s house, shop)	Q6b: Your child is pleasant (smiles, laughs) when first arriving in unfamiliar places
Q2c: Your child is pleasant (coos, smiles) during face washing	Q6c: Your child is pleasant (coos, smiles) during face washing	Q6c: Your child is pleasant (coos, smiles) during face washing
Q2d: Your child is fussy when burped (cries, fusses) during feeding	Q6d: Your child is content (smiles, coos) during interruptions of milk or solid feeding	Q6d: Your child remains pleasant when hungry and waiting for food to be prepared
Q2e: Your child is fussy when put down for sleep (cries or frets)	Q6e: Your child cries remains pleasant or calm with minor injuries (bumps, pinches)	Q6e: Your child cries after a bump or fall

Table 3: ‘Adaptability’ questions from the Carey Temperament Scales

PINK		BLUE
0-3 months	4-11 months	1 year – 2 years 11 months
Q2f: Your child accepts his or her bath any time of day without resisting	Q6f: Your child objects to being bathed in a different place or by a different person after 2 or 3 tries	Q6f: Your child takes several days to get used to (show usual behaviour in) new situations away from parent (play group, nursery, babysitter)
Q2g: Your child objects (fusses, squirms) to being bathed by a different person even after 2 or 3 tries	Q6g: Your child is still wary or frightened of strangers after 15 minutes	Q6g: Your child continues to get into forbidden areas or objects in spite of parents’ repeated warnings
Q2h: Your child adjusts to change in place of sleeping within 2 or 3 days	Q6h: Your child adjusts within 10 minutes to new surroundings (home, shop, play area, etc.)	Q6h: Your child is still wary of strangers after 15 minutes
Q2i: Your child resists changes in feeding schedule (1 hour or more) even after 2 tries	Q6i: Your child adjusts easily and sleeps well within 1 or 2 days with changes of time or place	Q6i: Your child sleeps poorly (restless, wakeful) in new places for two or three times
Q2j: Your child resists (squirms or fusses) during routine dressing or undressing	Q6j: Your child accepts his or her bath any time of the day without resisting it	Q6j: Your child allows face washing without protest (squirming, turning away)

Table 4: ‘Approach’ questions from the Carey Temperament Scales

PINK		BLUE
0-3 months	4-11 months	1 year – 2 years 11 months
Q2k: Your child turns the head away and looks for the mother or main care giver when held by a new person	Q6k: Your child is shy (turns away or clings to you) on meeting another child for the first time	Q6k: Your child is shy (turns away or clings to mother) on meeting another child for the first time
Q2l: For the first few minutes in a new place or situation (new shop or home) your child is fretful	Q6l: For the first few minutes in a new place or situation (new shop or home) your child is fretful	Q6l: For the first few minutes in a new place (shop, new home, stranger’s house) your child is wary (clings to mother, holds back)
Q2m: Your child appears bothered (cries, squirms) when first put down to sleep in a different place than usual	Q6m: Your child appears bothered (cries or squirms) when first put down in a different sleeping place	Q6m: Your child is fearful of being put down in an unfamiliar place (supermarket trolley, new pushchair, play area) when a parent is present
Q2n: Your child accepts right away a change in feeding time	Q6n: Your child’s initial reaction to a new babysitter is rejection (crying, clinging to mother or main carer)	Q6n: Your child’s initial reaction to a new babysitter is rejection (crying, clinging to mother, etc.)
Q2o: Your child objects (cries, frets) if someone other than the mother or main care giver gives care	Q6o: Your child’s initial reaction at home to approach by strangers is acceptance	Q6o: Your child’s initial reaction at home to approach by strangers is acceptance (looks at, reaches out)

Table 5: ‘Rhythmicity’ questions from the Carey Temperament Scales

PINK		BLUE
0-3 months	4-11 months	1 year – 2 years 11 months
Q2p: Your child wants and takes milk feedings at about the same times (within 1 hour) from day to day	Q6p: Your child wants and takes milk feeds at about the same time (within one hour) from day to day	Q6q: The amount of milk or juice your child takes at mealtime is unpredictable from meal to meal (over 2 fl oz. or 50 ml. difference)
Q2q: Your child gets sleepy about the same time each evening (within ½ hour)	Q6q: Your child gets sleepy at about the same time each evening (within half an hour)	Q6p: Your child gets sleepy at about the same time each evening (within ½ hour)
Q2r: Your child’s day time naps are varied in length from day to day (more than 1 hour in difference)	Q6r: Your child’s daytime naps are about the same length from day to day	Q6r: Your child takes daytime naps at differing times (over ½ hour difference) from day to day
Q2s: Your child wants an extra feeding at a different time each day (over 1 hour in difference)	Q6s: Your child wants and takes solid food at about the same time (within 1 hour) from day to day	Q6s: Your child eats about the same amount of food at meals from day to day
Q2t: Your child’s fussy period occurs at or about the same time of day (morning, afternoon, night)	Q6t: How often does your child make a fuss or cry before going to sleep? ?? I think from MOOD scale	Q6t: Your child’s period of greatest physical activity comes at the same time of day

Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire

This set of 26 questions (25 basic questions and one impact question) is appropriate for children between age 3 and 16 years. There are two versions, although only two questions differ between them. One version is for children between age 3 and 3 years 11 months, the other for children age 4 and over. However, only three questions differ between the two versions. The response options are 'not true', 'somewhat true', and 'certainly true'. There are an additional 7 questions for parents who feel their child has some level of emotional, concentration or behaviour difficulty.

Table 6: Strengths and Difficulties questions

	Green (age 3 – 5yrs 11 mths)	Lilac (age 6 – 16yrs 11 mths)
Considerate of other people's feelings	Q1a	Q1a
Restless, overactive and not able to sit still for long	Q1b	Q1b
Often complaining of headaches, stomach-aches or sickness	Q1c	Q1c
Sharing readily with other children (treats, toys, pencils etc.)	Q1d	Q1d
Has often had temper tantrums or hot tempers	Q1e	Q1e
Rather solitary, tending to play alone	Q1f	Q1f
Generally obedient, usually doing what adults requested	Q1g	Q1g
Many worries, often seeming worried	Q1h	Q1h
Helpful if someone was hurt, upset or feeling ill	Q1i	Q1i
Constantly fidgeting and squirming	Q1j	Q1j
Has had at least one good friend	Q1k	Q1k
Has often had fights with other children or bullied them	Q1l	Q1l
Often unhappy, downhearted or tearful	Q1m	Q1m
Generally liked by other children	Q1n	Q1n
Easily distracted, concentration wandered	Q1o	Q1o

	Green (age 3 – 5yrs 11 mths)	Lilac (age 6 – 16yrs 11 mths)
Nervous or clingy in new situations, easily loses confidence	Q1p	Q1p
Kind to younger children	Q1q	Q1q
Picked on or bullied by other children	Q1r	Q1s
Has often volunteered to help others (parents, teachers, other children)	Q1s	Q1t
Getting on better with adults than with other children	Q1t	Q1w
Many fears, easily scared	Q1u	Q1x
Has seen tasks through to the end, good attention span	Q1v	Q1y
	*Age 4-5yrs 11mths only	
Has often lied or cheated	Q4a	Q1r
Able to think things out before acting	Q4b	Q1u
Has stolen from home, school or elsewhere	Q4c	Q1v
	*Age 3-3yrs 11mths only	
Often argumentative with adults	Q3a	
Able to stop and think things over before acting	Q3b	
Spiteful to others	Q3c	
	Age 3-5yrs 11mths (all)	
Overall, do you think that your child has difficulties in one or more of the following areas: emotions, concentration, behaviour or being able to get on with other people?	Q5	Q2
How long have these difficulties been present?	Q6	Q3
Do these difficulties upset or distress your child?	Q7	Q4
Do these difficulties interfere with your child's everyday life in the following areas ...		
... home life?	Q8a	Q5a
... friendship?	Q8b	Q5b
... classroom learning? (if your child is at school)	Q8c	Q5c
... leisure activities?	Q8d	Q5d
Do these difficulties put a burden on you or the family as a whole?	Q9	Q6

C) Relationship between Parent and Child

The *Child-Parent Relationship Scale* (Pianta: Short Form) measures the parent's report of the child's relationship with the said parent³. These questions were used in the second sweep of the Millennium Cohort Study (MCS) in 2003-2004 though some were adapted by the research team to be more age specific. Some questions were appropriate for all children. Table 7 shows that parents answered between 10-13 questions about the current relationship they had with their child. There was five response options ranging from 'definitely does not apply' to 'definitely applies' to choose from.

³ It was adapted from the Student-Teacher Relationship Scale (STRS, Pianta, 1992). The Child-Parent Relationship Scale (CPRS: Short Form) is a 15 item self-administered rating scale, with responses on a 5 point Likert scale. It is the shortened version of the 30 item CPRS. Items were derived from attachment theory and the attachment Q-set (Waters & Dean, 1985) as well as a review of the literature on mother-child interactions.

Table 7: Relationship between parent (cohort member) and child questions

	Pink (0-11mths)	Blue (1-2yrs 11mths)	Green (3 – 5yrs 11 mths)	Lilac (6 – 16yrs 11 mths)
I share an affectionate, warm relationship with my child	Q7a	Q7a	Q10a	Q7a
My child and I always seem to be struggling with each other		Q7b	Q10b	
My child will seek comfort from me	Q7b	Q7c	Q10c	Q7b
My child is uncomfortable with physical affection or touch from me	Q7c	Q7d	Q10d	Q7c
My child values his or her relationship with me				Q7d
When I praise my child, he or she beams with pride	Q8d	Q7e	Q11e	
My child spontaneously shares information about him or herself			Q10f	Q7e
My child easily becomes angry at me	Q7e	Q7f	Q10g	Q7f
It is easy to be in tune with what my child is feeling	Q7f	Q7g	Q10h	Q7g
My child remains angry or is resistant after being disciplined	Q7g	Q7h	Q10i	Q7h
Dealing with my child drains my energy	Q7h	Q7i	Q10j	Q7i
When my child wakes in a bad mood, I know we're in for a long and difficult day	Q7i	Q7j	Q10k	Q7j
My child's feelings towards me can be unpredictable or can change suddenly	Q7j	Q7k	Q10l	Q7k
My child is sneaky or manipulative with me			Q10m	Q7l
My child shares his or her feelings and experiences with me				Q7m

D) Parenting Style (Discipline)

These questions were included in the MCS, second sweep. Some were adapted by the research team to be more age specific. Table 8 shows that parents answered between 5 and 10 questions, depending on the age of their child. As previously, some questions were appropriate for all children, some were age specific. Parents have to think back over the last three months and select one of the six response options ranging from ‘never’ to ‘always’, including ‘not applicable’.

Table 8: Parenting style (discipline) questions

	Pink (0-11mths)	Blue (1-2yrs 11mths)	Green (3 – 5yrs 11 mths)	Lilac (6 – 16yrs 11 mths)
How often have you ignored your child?	Q8a	Q8a	Q11a	Q8a
How often have you shouted at your child?	Q8b	Q8b	Q11b	Q8b
How often have you sent your child to their bedroom, etc?		Q8c	Q11c	Q8c
How often have you had to take away TV privileges or other treats?			Q11d	Q8d
How often have you told your child off?	Q8c	Q8d	Q11e	Q8e
How often have you had to bribe your child (e.g with sweets or a treat)	Q8d	Q8e	Q11f	Q8f
How often have you taken away your child’s pocket money or allowance?			Q13a (age 5+)	Q8g
How often have you tried to reason with your child?			Q11g	
How often have you given your child a household task to do (e.g. clean their bedroom or the bathroom, tidy the garden, mow the lawn)?			Q13b (age 5+)	Q8h
How often have you had to smack your child?	Q8e	Q8f	Q11h	Q8i

E) Reading and Learning

Most of these questions were asked in the *NCDS Mother and Child Survey in 1991*. These questions (see table 9) covered parents reading to or with their child, how many books a child had (or shared with their siblings), and what building blocks to learning had a parent helped their child with (numbers, the alphabet, colours, shapes and sizes). A few additional questions regarding homework were asked for children age 6 years and older.

Table 9: questions on reading and learning

	Pink (0-11mths)	Blue (1-2yrs 11mths)	Green (3-5yrs 11mths)	Lilac (6-16yrs 11mths)
Approximately how many books does your child have (including books shared with brothers and sisters)?	Q9	Q9	Q16	Q15
Approximately how many books does your child have (including books shared with brothers and sisters)	Q10	Q10	Q17	Q16
Have you or your child's other parent ever helped your child to learn any of the following.....				
.....numbers	Q11a	Q11a	Q18a	
.....the alphabet	Q11b	Q11b	Q18b	
.....colours	Q11c	Q11c	Q18c	
.....shapes and sizes	Q11d	Q11d	Q18d	
.....none of the above	Q11e	Q11e	Q18e	
Additional questions about homework				Q17-q21