

Supporting Nutrition for Australian Childcare (SNAC) and SNACPlus – a whole of centre approach





How many children at child care?



Number of children attending Long Day Care Centres

- CHILDREN: 171,000 (1996) \rightarrow 630,000+ (2015)
- **CENTRES**: 330 (1997) \rightarrow 552 WA (2015)
- Average attendance of 27.9 hours per week (2015)



Early Childhood and Child Care in Summary

The role of child care in early years nutrition



Provision of food/menu planning

- Role modelling
- Nutrition education
- Healthy food habits and preferences

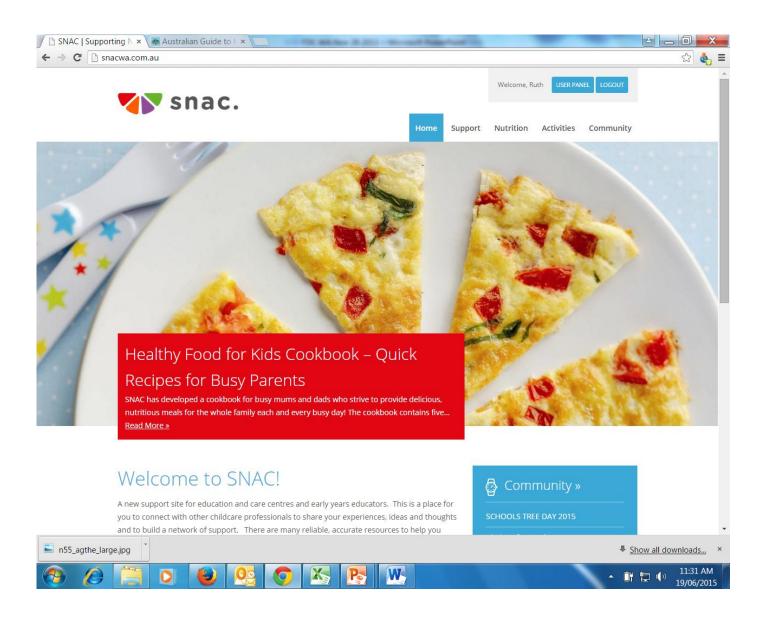
The research – Australian data



- Intakes of energy, iron, calcium, zinc did not meet recommended guidelines (Gelissen, 1992; Soanes et al., 2001)
- Recommendations not met for any of the core food groups – ↓meat, vegetables, grains; ↑ Fruit, fat (Sambell et al., 2014)
- Total energy, calcium ↓; fat, sodium ↑ (Bell et al., 2015)

SNAC: Supporting nutrition for Australian childcare





SNAC



- Support
 - Fact sheets
 - Links
 - Menu planning tools and guidelines
 - Activities for healthy eating

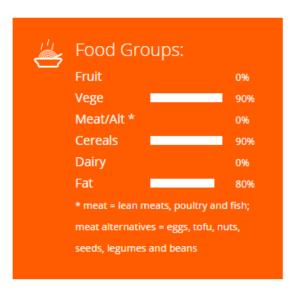




SNAC



- Nutrition
 - Recipes specifically designed for childcare
 - Nourish cookbook
 - Nutrition calculators

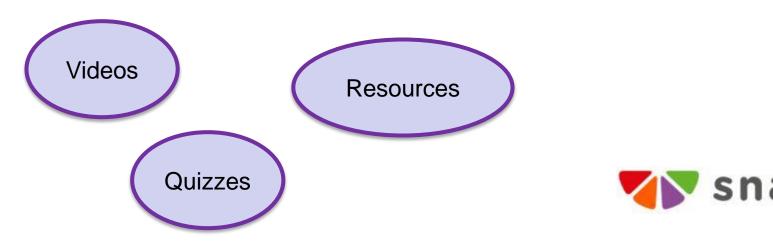


SNAC



Activities

- Based on feedback from stage 1
 - Fussy eating
 - Menu planning
 - Reading and understanding food labels
 - Basic nutrition concepts



SNACPlus



 SNACPlus funded to develop nutrition curriculum for childcare centres

 Professional development, activities for children, information for parents



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Links to EYLF and NQS







Educators



"From little things, big things grow" – Food and drink sources.

Read More »



"My healthy choice" - Food and drink choice.

Read More »

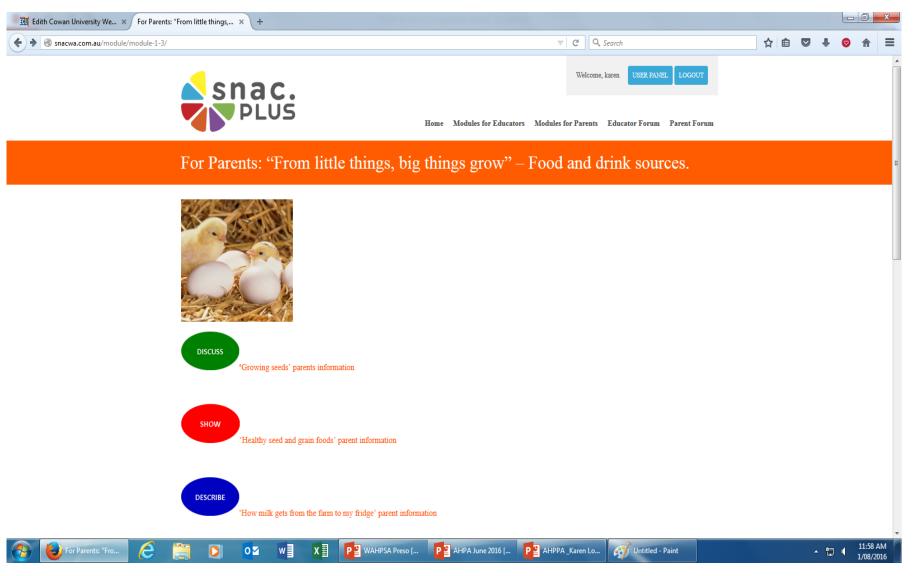


NEW! "Jazz in the kitchen" – Food and drink experience NEW!

Read More »

Parent modules





Results post SNACPlus



- Pre-test n=151, post-test n= 138
- 64% of services made changes post intervention
- Significant improvement in:
 - limiting the use of salt
 - limiting sources of saturated fats
 - limiting foods high in sugar
 - choosing whole grain products

SNACPlus body image module



- Educators understood the concept of body image but knowledge about body image development lacking
- Training in relation to body image had been negligible
- Expressed interest in online professional development



Body image results



snac.

Significant changes in body appreciation scores

Significant increases in self-efficacy

Significant increases in positive behaviours

Conclusion



 Online professional development and curriculum popular with educators

SNACPlus successful in increasing KAB

Inclusion of body image innovative

However, we struggled to include parents

Any questions?



