

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Table: \_\_\_\_\_ Period: \_\_\_\_\_

Enrichment Lesson: Understanding Correlations

The delightful Good News Survey (GNS) published in Hippocrates was designed to illustrate errors that can be hidden in seemingly sound scientific studies. The survey found that people who often ate Frosted Flakes as children had half the cancer rate of those who never ate the cereal. Conversely, those who often ate oatmeal as children were four time more likely to develop cancer than those who did not. Does this mean the Frosted Flakes prevent caner while oatmeal causes it? Explain your answer and tell if other variables might be involved that could explain the findings in this survey.

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The Good News Survey (GNS) Found that people who took vitamins as children were more than twice as likely to go on to use marijuana and cocaine compared to people who did not take vitamins as children. Does this mean that taking vitamins increases the likelihood of illegal drug use in people? Explain your answer and tell if other variables might be involved that could explain the findings in this survey.

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The Good News Survey GNS revealed that people who had had routine physicals in the previous 3 years were twice as likely to report high blood pressure and cholesterol levels. Do physical exams cause health problems? Explain your answer and tell if other variables might be involved that could explain the findings in this survey.

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