Fetuses Smile for Carrots but Grimace Over Kale, Study Suggests

September 23, 2022

While it is known that some children are not huge fans of greens, a new study suggests that such dietary preferences could come about before they’re even born.

Fetuses create more of a “laughter-face” in the womb when exposed to the flavor of carrots consumed by their mother and create more of a “cry-face” response when exposed to kale, according to a study published in the journal Psychological Science on Wednesday.

“We decided to do this study to understand more about fetal abilities to taste and smell in the womb,” lead researcher Beyza Ustun, a postgraduate researcher in the Fetal and Neonatal Research Lab at Durham University in the UK, told CNN Thursday via email.