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(54) Title: METHODS FOR PREDICTING AGE-OR DEVELOPMENTAL STAGE-APPROPRIATE FOODS FOR CHILDREN

(57) Abstract: The present disclosure provides methods for classifying food products and predicting appropriate ages and/or developmental stages that children should be provided with certain food products. In an embodiment, the methods include mathematical models that use the measurements of key texture attributes to predict the minimum age and/or developmental stage of food products. Using the methods of the present disclosure, classification of food products can be directed during early product development. Additionally, the methods of the present disclosure have generated an understanding of which key texture attributes differentiate appropriate products across developmental stages.

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