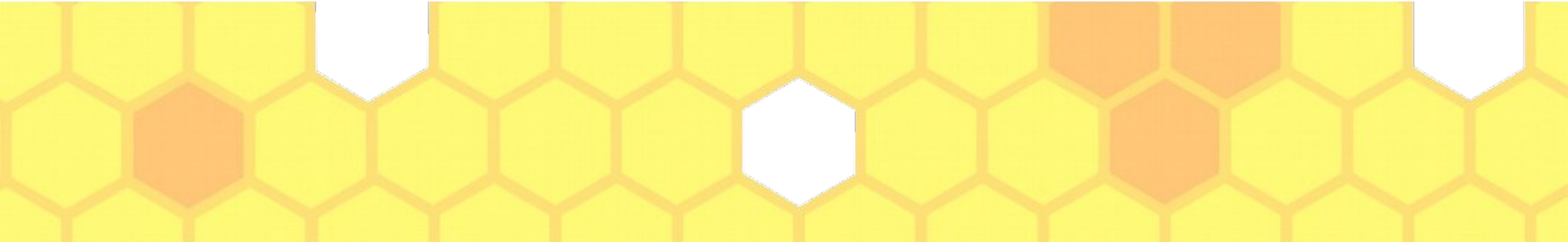




Learning in our classrooms.

By Adrienne Roberts



Approaches to learning.

Through past years many theories have been developed to examine the processes involved in learning. Most of the theories concentrate on the importance of the way that learning is delivered.

There are many different ways of learning both formal and informal, as part of group work, such as in a everyday classroom, 1:1, such as in a special needs settings where there are classroom assistants that are allocated to individual children for additional support. Also self taught individuals.

Furthermore people learn differently at different times in their lives and in different circumstances.

<https://study.com/academy/topic/theoretical-approaches-to-learning-motivation.html> [Accessed 2 Nov. 2019].

Approaches to learning.

“Piaget's contributions to schools curriculum and play include his ideas that knowledge should be actively constructed by a child, and learning activities should match the level of the conceptual development stage of each child. For example, adjusting an activity to the needs and abilities to each individual”.

[How_does_jean_piaget_theory_link_to_nursery's_practice](#) [Accessed 29 Oct. 2019]. .



<http://legendofsafety.com/assimilation-piaget.html> [Accessed 2 Nov. 2019]. .

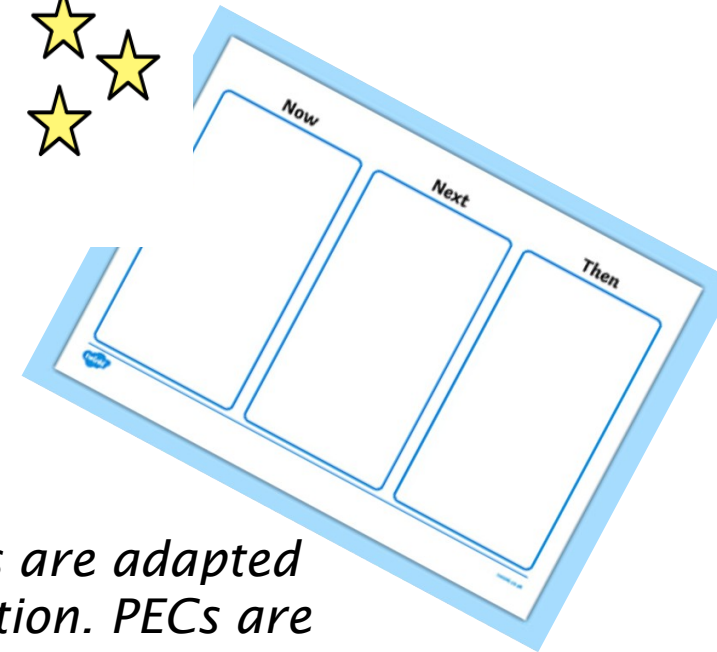
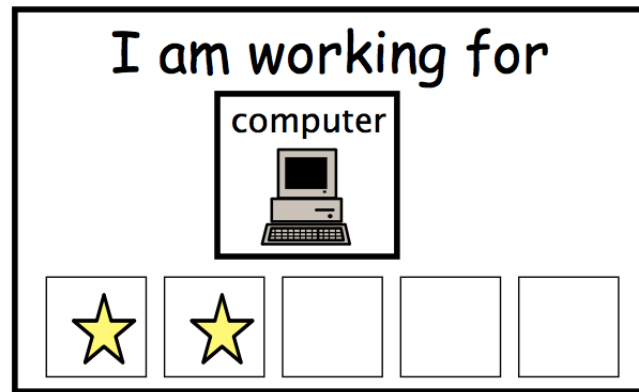
“Jean Piaget's theory of cognitive development suggests that children move through four different stages of mental development. His theory focuses not only on understanding how children acquire knowledge, but also on understanding the nature of intelligence”.

<https://www.verywellmind.com/piagets-stages-of-cognitive-development-2795457> [Accessed 2 Nov. 2019].

Piaget's Periods of Cognitive Development			
Birth to 2 years	Sensori-motor	Uses senses and motor skills, items known by use	Object permanence learned
2-6 yrs	Pre-operational	Symbolic thinking, language used; egocentric thinking	Imagination/ experience grow, child de-centers
7-11 yrs	Concrete operational	Logic applied, has objective/rational interpretations	Conservation, numbers, ideas, classifications
12 yrs to adulthood	Formal operational	Thinks abstractly, hypothetical ideas (broader issues)	Ethics, politics, social/moral issues explored

<https://philosophyofed.files.wordpress.com/2012/04/stages20of20piaget2.jpg> [Accessed 2 Nov. 2019].

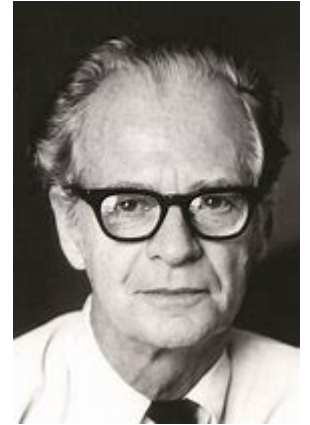
Approaches to learning.



Within my setting, activities and worksheets are adapted to every individual need of the child in question. PECs are used to support the learner with the aid of pictures, to encourage any positive form of communication. Also now and then boards are used to break down tasks and simplify routines. Also we implement ABA by using motivators to increase the likelihood of a positive behaviour.

Motivators and rewards.

Skinner's Reinforcement Theory is one of the theories focusing on human motivation and in turn the rewards resulting from certain behaviours. The theory is based on the principles and knowledge that an individual's behaviour is linked to the type of reward or motivator that comes after. Reinforcement Theory is a theory that focuses on what motivates humans.



Positive reinforcement is one of the main strategies used in ABA.

When a behaviour is followed by something that is valued (a reward), a person is more likely to repeat that behaviour. Over time, this encourages positive behaviour change.

First, the therapist identifies a goal behaviour. Each time the person uses the behaviour or skill successfully, they get a reward. The reward is meaningful to the individual – examples include praise, a toy or book, watching a video, access to playground or other location, and more.

Positive rewards encourage the person to continue using the skill. Over time this leads to meaningful behaviour change.

<https://www.autismspeaks.org/applied-behavior-analysis-aba-0> [Accessed 2 Nov. 2019]

References.

Answers.com. (2019). How does jean piaget theory link to nursery's practice - Answers. [online] Available at: https://www.answers.com/Q/How_does_jean_piaget_theory_link_to_nursery's_practice [Accessed 29 Oct. 2019].

Autism Speaks. (2019). Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) | Autism Speaks. [online] Available at: <https://www.autismspeaks.org/applied-behavior-analysis-aba-0> [Accessed 2 Nov. 2019].

Aubrey, K. and Riley, A. (n.d.). *Understanding & using educational theories*.

Barton, L. and Tomlinson, S. (1981). *Special education*. London: Harper & Row.

.blogspot.com. (2019). [online] Available at: http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-bss0kRiR6xU/URgdv07g1EI/AAAAAAAAAAk/_y1qEYfiX0Q/s1600/Skinner+3.jpg [Accessed 2 Nov. 2019].

Cheminais, R. (n.d.). *Every child matters*.

Clough, P. and Corbett, J. (2010). *Theories of inclusive education*. Los Angeles: Sage.

Farrell, M. (2010). *Debating special education*. London: Routledge.

Legendofsafety.com. (2019). Assimilation piaget. Schemas, Assimilation, Accommodation, Equilibration. 2019-03-03. [online] Available at: <http://legendofsafety.com/assimilation-piaget.html> [Accessed 2 Nov. 2019].

Philosophyofed.files.wordpress.com. (2019). [online] Available at: <https://philosophyofed.files.wordpress.com/2012/04/stages20of20piaget2.jpg> [Accessed 2 Nov. 2019].

Study.com. (2019). Theoretical Approaches to Learning & Motivation- Videos & Lessons | Study.com. [online] Available at: <https://study.com/academy/topic/theoretical-approaches-to-learning-motivation.html> [Accessed 2 Nov. 2019].

Verywell Mind. (2019). What Are Piaget's Four Stages of Development?. [online] Available at: <https://www.verywellmind.com/piagets-stages-of-cognitive-development-2795457> [Accessed 2 Nov. 2019].