



"A child's experience between the ages of 0 - 5 years will affect the rest of their lives"

Jean Piaget was a Swiss psychologist known for his work on child development. Piaget's theory of cognitive development and epistemological view are together called "genetic epistemology". Piaget placed great importance on the education of children. Lev Semyonovich Vygotsky was a Soviet psychologist, known for his work on psychological development in children. He published on a diverse range of subjects, and from multiple views as his perspective changed over the years.

Vygotsky's Theory

Vygotsky very strongly emphasises that culture affects cognitive development- making it the total opposite of Piaget's stages of development. Vygotsky assumes that cognitive development is different in each cultural background. Social context and cultural learning play a big part in childhood development. Vygotsky's theory enables you to understand how children grow up being influenced by their environment and learn from each other's culture. Social mixing helps them interact with others which enables cognitive development stems. Vygotsky believes that children from birth to the age of three have separate systems with thought being one of them and the other being language (i.e., thought comes before language and, at around three years old, we start having inner thoughts which translate to verbal thoughts). Children learn from adults, in the same way that a student learns from a teacher picking up everything from body language to how they speak and interact with people. They copy and slowly start to understand. Children learn quickly and apply what they have learnt into practice and keep trying if they have the support from adults regardless of if they are doing it right. Vygotsky claims that, from birth, children are born with the ability to have intellectual development- he calls these elementary mental functions, attention, sensation, perception, and memory. Social interaction helps a child to develop basic mental functions effectively to provide intellectual tools to adapt to the culture and language that they are born into. Also learning from different cultures helps them to develop into more sophisticated individuals enabling children to have higher mental functions. Both Piaget and Vygotsky believe children learn from doing activities, interacting with others but, most importantly, by someone helping and guiding them on how to do things correctly. If they cannot do something, for example, like tying their shoelaces by themselves and someone takes the time to teach them step by step, they will make mistakes but gradually will learn to do it by themselves. If this way of thinking is applied to all types of learning from studying, workplace learning or home learning, more effective and long-lasting results would be seen.



Piaget's Theory

Piaget's theory states that we are actively in the process of learning. We learn things as a direct result of experiences and, as children grow, a new experience is added to the one before. During each stage of growth, they are capable of saying and doing a lot more than their younger self.

Piaget's four different stages of development are:

Sensorimotor (0-2 years old) object permanence children simply behave they do not think

Preoperational (2-7 years old) symbolic thought children start to think but they are constrained by their own views of the world.

Concrete operational (7-11 years old) operational thought children start to use logical rules to conclusion, but they are restricted to the here and now.

Formal operational (adolescence to adulthood) transition to a full abstract adult like way of thinking.

Here is a simple way of understanding Piaget's theory:

Children learn by observing parents. For example, making a "Quack Quack" sound and asking a child where they have heard it before could help them to remember the sound that ducks make. We all learn no matter what our age. Learning is a part of life.



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Activity Time

Activities are great for a child's development; it encourages them to play, talk and interact with others. Playing games that are more physical will help to keep them and their brains active. Here are a couple of activities that you can try with children at home or outdoors.

- Try and hide a few toys for the children to find and give them little clues to guide them. And, with each one they find, you can offer them some sort of prize!
- Have a go at trying to match cards with them. This will help to stimulate their brains and to help them focus.
- Get your little helper in the kitchen with you and try and get them to help with the baking or cleaning make it fun and reward them by praising how good they were in helping you that by itself will boost up their confidence and self-worth.

Activities for everyday brain development below is a website you can go on for more child friendly activities that you can do with your children like this website there are many more that you could do with your children just type in child development activities then age of your child that way you will be able to find it quick.

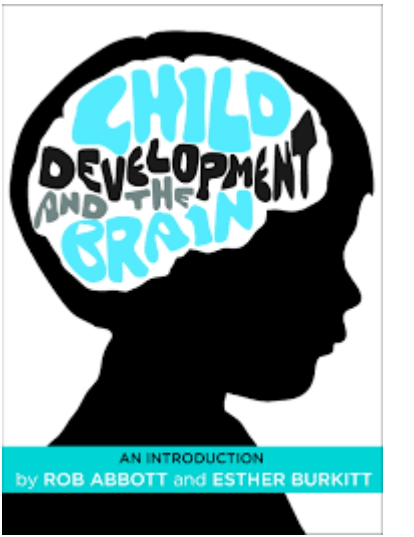
<https://www.brighthorizons.com/family-resources/child-development-activities-for-everyday-brain-building> Infant and Toddler Brain Development & Building Activities

Stair Count: When your child is learning to walk up and down stairs, hold hands, and count each step you take together. This will help your child become familiar with numbers and think it's a fun game at the same time! By making connections that numbers aren't just words to memorize, your child is beginning to learn math.

Food Rhymes: During a meal or snack, create a rhyme or a rap about what your child is eating: "No slice, no dice, we eat rice!" or "(Your child's name) is no rookie, eating her cookie." Your child will enjoy the sound of the words, and if she responds, make rhymes from her words, too. Listening to rhymes—and making up their own—makes mealtime fun while helping your child develop communication skills.

Child development at all stages is very important. You can apply any theory but, in the end, it comes down to how they learn in their environment- whether that is cultural or Piaget's 4 stage theory. The more time and effort we invest in children determines how they learn and at what level- we mostly learn from visual observations. Piaget believed that cognitive development occurs through a sequence of successive changes in cognitive structure.

From birth, learning becomes very important: from babies figuring out that, if you cry, a carer will respond by coming to check on them. What remains amazing, however, is the fact that babies are able to teach themselves this!



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Viarouge, Arnaud ; Houdé, Olivier ; Borst, Grégoire Netherlands: Elsevier B.V Cognition, 2019-09, Vol.190, p.137-142

In Piaget's theory of number development, children do not possess a true concept of number until they are able to reason on numerical quantity regardless of changes in other nonnumerical magnitudes, such as length...

Henry W.(Henry William) maier. Three theories of child development : the contributions of Erik H. Erikson, Jean Piaget, and Robert R. Sears, and their applications.

I found this one interesting as it has all four theory's that I have been studying Piagets theory of cognitive development goes on telling us how children learn according to the different stages , Vygotsky's theory of social constructism where children learn from individuals as well as a group from family, friends, strangers and teachers etc, Ericksons theory of life span development, carl araogers theory of humanism each psychologist had their own way of theorising child development and in this little article it gave a lot of information and easy to understand the concept of their theory's.

Hetherington, E. M., Parke, R. D., & Locke, V. O. (1999). Child psychology: A contemporary viewpoint (5th ed.). McGraw-Hill.

child psychology is undergoing rapid change. Theorists and researchers have found very interesting breakthroughs in making that step to understanding child psychology as a whole.. The book reflects on the dynamic nature of the field of child psychology

David F. Bjorklund Anthony D. Pellegrini First published: 28 January 2003

I found this one interesting as it has all four theory's on child development added to this article and mentions them starting with Piagets theory of cognitive development,Vygotskys theory of social constructivism, Erikson's theory of life span development, Carl Rogers theory of humanism each psychologist had their own way of theorising child development and how they found that their theory's has been very valuable to us learners in understanding child development.

Huitt, W & Hummel J, (2003), Piaget's Theory of Cognitive Development available at: https://intranet.newriver.edu/images/stories/library/stennett_psychology_articles/Piagets%20Theory%20of%20Cognitive%20Development.pdf

This article talks about Piaget's theory, and talks about the cognitive development stages. Each stage has been described in detail, what every age group will go through, how the developments will occur. Graphs are shown how different stages are effective in the age years and how high school students portray them. It was a credible source as it was providing evidence of how effective Piaget's development stages were, gave us the information regarding the theory.

NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde, (2017), Child Development, [website] available at: <https://www.nhsggc.org.uk/kids/life-skills/play-leisure/>

A child's development is very important who better can explain this then the NHS it self the website was providing different types of resources, ideas of activities and information on child development regarding a child's well being and how an individual's body will develop over time and how mental well being is also as or more important than physical health. There were various types of activities given on the website, which would help the child's gross motor and fine motor skills develop within those activities. This is very reliable as it was provided by NHS themselves I have looked at other websites though they are credible I wanted to put this website as top choice as it goes into detail and has a lot of information that we all can use, which means the information being given out is reliable and correct as it provided activities that parents can do with their children to increase their independence and confidence and develop their fine and gross motor skills.

Weisz Rodriguez, (2018), Piaget Theory: Childhood Cognitive developmental stages [website] available at: <https://blog.cognifit.com/piaget-theory/#:~:text=Piaget%20Theory%20Pre%2DMoral%20Stage,a%20parent%2C%20caretaker%2C%20etc>

Nhsggc.org.uk/kids/child-development/

I found this website describe child development in a quick and easy was I was able to use this on some of the work I did.

Www.pearsonschoolsandfecolleges.co.uk

I downloaded this pdf it shows the physical development milestones for the first 12 months also from birth to 5 years of age and it investigates children's growth and development.

Earlyyearsmatters.co.uk

This website was a brilliant find it goes in details of each stages from birth onwards describing the steps of how children learn and what they hear or see and what they suppose to be able to do at certain ages 0-3 months etc.

Www.babycentre.co.uk

I really enjoyed reading the contents of this website it has a very good way of making you understand child development.