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Student name

Sainabou lowe (2421282)

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lecturer

Muhammad Aliyu

Introduction:

Individual presentation applying piaget's cognitive theory

I am a practitioner in an early years nursery setting. I'm supporting a 3-year-old child named Amira who has recently joined the nursery. Amira is showing signs of anxiety when left by her carers, limited verbal communication, and difficulty engaging in group play. My role is to understand her developmental needs and contribute to a support plan that promotes her emotional, social, cognitive, and physical well being.

Piaget's cognitive development theory

Piaget cognitive development theory is a framework explaining that children actively construct their understanding of the world through four distinct stages: sensorimotor (0-2 years), preoperational (2-7 years), concrete operational (7-11 years), and formal operational (12+ years).([APA PsycNet, n.d](#))

I have decided to use this development theory to make a suitable development plan for Amira. As i think this plan suits amira's needs the most as she is in the preoperational stage of the development theory where children start to engage in pretend play and get better with language and thinking. But they still struggle with logic and seeing things from others point of view , so their thinking can still be very concrete.

Applying the theory to Amira's situation.

For the emotional development i could use strategies such as symbolic representation and roleplay separation. For symbolic representation using a picture or other item familiar as a substitute for when the careers are gone could help maintain a sense of connection for amira. Also using roleplay separation will be done by using dolls and acting out separation scenarios a such as 'mommy leaving and coming back' this would help amira understand events through symbolic play.

For social development i will use parallel play and small structured analysis. Which can be building a tower together using legos to improve social interaction with other kids and promote teamwork and creativity.

For cognitive development the use of visual supports, language scaffolding , use of Picture cards, gesture cues, and objects can help amira understand information and use of simple language can be a scaffold to increase understanding for normal interactions..

For physical development amira can engage in hands on activities and fine/gross motor play activities. The use of puzzles and playdough can help improve cognitive problem solving as well as gross motor play activities such as doing climbing obstacles and running games.([Berk. L. E.](#)

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Biological and Environmental influences

(nature & nurture)

For social development piaget explains that children in the preoperational stage are often egocentric which affects their ability to play in groups, as for biological influences speech delays and sensitivity in sensory nerves can cause being in busy groups overwhelming reducing confidence and social interaction. For environmental influences amira might not have many opportunities to play at home limiting her ability to interact with others.

For emotional development piaget explains that at this stage children rely heavily on symbolic thinking and stable routines to make sense of the world. For biological influences temperament and neurological development and as for environmental influences the caregivers consistency ,history of attachment issues and moving away from home can affect emotional development.

For cognitive development piaget explains that learning through play, exploration, and hands-on experiences to improve communication and cognitive functioning. For biological influences differences in Hearing, speech-motor development, or neurodevelopmental can cause problems for children amira's age. For environmental influences having a huge richness of language exposed to the child could help improve cognitive functions.

For physical development piaget explains that physical action is directly linked to learning how the action are initially done. For biological influences Muscle tone, motor coordination, and overall health all affect motor skills. For environmental influences having access to safe outdoor spaces and appropriate fine motor materials such as crayons, puzzles and toys can help elevate a child's physical development quicker.

Limitations of Piaget's cognitive development theory

The limitations of using piaget's development theory are that the theory sometimes underestimated the children as the strategies being used really imply that the children need extensive help to understand simple concepts, for example some children develop cognitive functions earlier than piaget's stages predict. piaget's also ignores a child's individual differences such as temperament background and environment. One thing piaget's ignores a lot is children with neurodiversity. children who have neurodiversity might fall below or above piaget predicted stages and cause confusion when coming up for strategies to help them develop in modern society.

References

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