

Case study Amira

Based on the Piaget theory of cognitive development

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Piaget Theory

FOUR STAGES OF DEVELOPMENT

There are four stages of cognitive development proposed by Piaget.

LEARNING THROUGH INVESTIGATION

Children learn through practical investigation of the surrounding.

SCHEMA BUILDING

cognitive development moves from simple to complex thinking via scheme building.



The major concepts of the Piaget Theory

1

Schemas

Children create Schemas in order to group experiences.

2

Assimilation

Identification of new information in the existing schemas.

3

Accomodation

Customizing the schemas where necessary.

Case summary: Amira (age 3)

Nursery adjustment

Nursery new and cries on being separated - parent schema disrupted.

Social behaviour

Shy, withdrawn and does not like strangers -egocentrism in preoperational stage.

Exploration challenges

Shows reluctant to venture into new areas - limited symbolic functions.

Piaget application to Amira

Developmental stage

Amira is in the preoperational stage - symbolic thinking emerging.

She is beginning to think symbolically but still has problems with logical thinking.

Schema development

The challenges of separation - disequilibrium when home schemas fall in nursery.

Routine assist cognitive adaptation which is predictable.

Things to discuss to Amira

01

Symbolic play
Symbolic play can be used to help Amira process separation emotions via pretend schemas.

02

Visual supports
Represents visual schedules and concrete objects to support Assimilation.

03

Routine Building
Sick to routines in order to build predictable schemas.

04

Guided play
Manipulate play through adult instructions to facilitate schema accomodation.



Within the support of social and communication skills

Peer cooperation
Play with cooperative peers with Amira - reduces egocentrism gradually.

Communication practice
Simulated dialogue, turn talking and affective vocabulary to name feelings.

Confidence building
Praise communication aims at stimulating confidence and symbolic expressions.

Nature, Nurture & Piaget

NURTURE ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS

The development is a reflection of environmental interaction nursery triggers Assimilation / accomodation. Positive conditions (routines, play)enhance cognitive development and resolve disequilibrium.

INDIVIDUAL TEMPERAMENT NATURE

Temperament determines the rate of adaptation - biological readiness for preoperational symbolic thought.

PIAGET'S VIEW

Maturation(nature) sets stage readiness ; experience (nurture) drives schema change.

Implementation and evaluation

Monitor Amira's progress in:



Separation confidence

Less crying = schema accomodation to nursery

Participation in play

From parallel to cooperative

Language use

Naming emotions / objects

Engagement in symbolic play

Pretend scenarios

Building confidence

This attention will help Amira to build confidence regularly as preoperational thinking mature.

Play is key to cognitive and emotional growth.



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Thank you!

