

Applying Bowlby's attachment theory to Isaac's development

Lifespan
development



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Introduction

Scenario

- Isaac is 4 years old
- Lives with his single mother
- Mother has post-natal depression
- Recently moved to London-limited family support
- Disrupted childcare over the past 2 yrs
- Withdrawn behaviour
- Language delay and struggles with group activities
- Separation anxiety



Key concepts

- Children form strong emotional bonds with caregiver
- Secure base helps children feel safe to explore
- Internal working model influence future relationships
- Separation from caregivers- separation anxiety

Why Bowlby's theory?

- Explains how early caregiver relationships affect emotional and social development
- Fits Isaac's separation anxiety and withdrawn behaviour and difficulty building relationships with others



Applying Bowlby's theory

confidence and emotional wellbeing

Isaac's experiences

- Mother's post-natal depression
- Disrupted childcare arrangements
- Recently moved to London
- Separation anxiety from his mother
- Withdrawn behaviour



Possible impact

- May develop an insecure attachment
- Reduced confidence and emotional security
- Challenges building friendships
- Difficulty trusting others
- Difficulty joining group activities



Nature and Nurture

Nature

- Brain development influences emotional growth
- Temperament affects how children respond to situations
- Biological factors play a role in development

Nurture

- Mother's mental health
- Disrupted childcare
- Moving homes
- Social environment
- Caregiving experiences

"Early relationships and experiences influence children's emotional development"

Nature vs Nurture

Nature	Nurture
 Genetics & DNA	 Environment
 Inherited Traits	 Upbringing
 Biological Factors	 Life Experiences
 Innate Abilities	 Learning & Culture
 Fixed at Birth	 Social Influence
 Physical Characteristics	 Changes Over Time





Support Strategies

- Assign a consistent key worker
- Create predictable daily routines
- Encourage play-based learning and social interaction
- Language rich environment through books and conversation
- Support for Isaac's mother with guidance and reassurance
- Multi-agency working

Evaluation

Strengths	Limitations
• Explains how early relationships influence development • Helps professionals understand emotional needs • Useful for planning early years support	• Focuses mainly on attachment with caregivers • Doesn't explain all factors of development • Other factors also influence development such as personality and culture



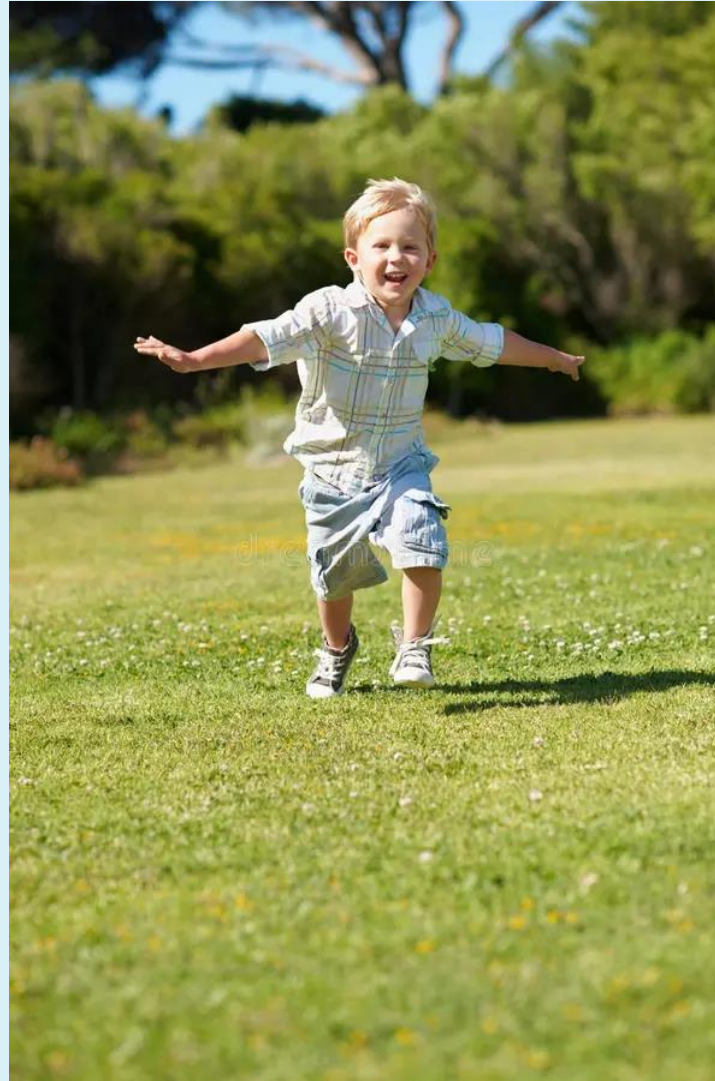
Conclusion

Bowlby's theory explains Isaac's behavior

Early experiences influence emotional development

Consistent support improves health and wellbeing

Families and professionals should work together to ensure everything goes as planned



Questions?



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