

About a Child Activity

Write about a child you know well.

How old is the child?

What kind of things can this child do well?

What things does he or she struggle with?

What does this child like to do?

What does this child not like to do?

What words would you use to describe this child?

What is this childlike – friendly, shy, energetic, calm, excitable, outgoing, risk taking, cautious, etc.?

What is the child's family situation?

What language or languages does this child speak?

What cultural practices does this child participate in?

What foods does this child like? Not like?

Theories and MN Standards

Theory	Main Ideas	Seen in ECIPs	Comments
Piaget's Cognitive Developmental Theory	Birth – 2 years – Sensorimotor 2 – 6 years – Preoperational 7 – 11 years – Concrete Operational 12 years & older – Formal Operational		
Vygotsky's Sociocultural Theory	Zone of Proximal Development Scaffolding Private Speech		
Gardner's Multiple Intelligences Theory	Naturalist Intelligence Musical Intelligence Logical-Mathematical Intelligence Existential Intelligence Interpersonal Intelligence Bodily-Kinesthetic Intelligence Linguistic Intelligence Intra-personal Intelligence Spatial Intelligence		
Erickson's Psychosocial Theory	0 – 1 Infancy – Trust vs Mistrust (Hope) 2 – 3 Toddler – Autonomy vs Shame & Doubt (Willpower) 4 – 5 Preschool – Initiative vs Guilt (Competence)		
Bronfenbrenner Ecological Theory	Microsystem Mesosystem Exosystem Macrosystem Chronosystem		

You Choose....circle the statement you agree with more.

1A. Development is a continuous gradual progression with new abilities, skills and knowledge gradually added at a relatively uniform pace.

OR

1B. Development occurs at different rate, alternating between periods of little change and periods of abrupt, rapid change.

2A. All humans follow the same general sequence of development. OR

2B. Each individual has unique course of development.

3A. Children respond to the world in much the same way as adults – their thinking is less sophisticated

OR

3B. Children have unique ways of thinking about and responding to the world that they are very different than those of adults.

4A. An individual's personality is mostly determined by heredity.

OR

4B. An individual's personality can be modified through caregiving experiences.

Field Work for Session C

Observe two children of the same age. Write down some of the behaviors that the children exhibit.

- What can these children do?
- What can they not yet do?
- Note the differences in development between the two children.
- How are they alike developmentally?
- How are they different?
- What other similarities and differences do you notice between these two children – do they like the same things?
- Do they behave in the same ways?
- Bring the observation notes with you to the next session

Importance of Play Quiz

True/False

- 1. I think all children know how to play.
- 2. I think all play has value.
- 3. I think all play has equal value.
- 4. I think a child's success in play is related to later school learning.
- 5. When I conference with parents, we talk about their child's play level and play skills.
- 6. I think teachers should let children play and not interfere unless there is a safety issue.
- 7. I see play primarily as a means to teach other areas of learning.
- 8. I have time planned in my day to observe children playing.
- 9. I think children don't need help to learn to play. It's something they just know how to do.
- 10. I think play is the way young children learn.