

Learn how cognitive abilities change as people develop.

- focuses on the processes that allow people to know, understand, and think about the world.
- It emphasize on how people think about the world and how children & adults process info and how there way of think, no & understand affect their behavior.

Cognitive Perspective

- Piaget - quantity of info as well as quality of knowledge and understanding as well.

- focus was on the change of cognition that occurs as children move from one stage to the next.
- human thinking is arranged into scheme - mental pattern that represents behaviours & actions (Infants - a scheme of sucking adults (set of skills involved riding a bike for reaching))
- Piaget suggests that the growth in children's understanding of the world can be explained by 2 basic principles
- Assimilation: occurs when people use the current way of thinking about & understand the world to perceive & understand new experience
- Accommodation: refers to changes in existing ways of thinking in response to encounters with new stimuli or events

Both work to bring about cognitive development

Humanistic - Karls Maslow

people voice their own natural capacity to make decision and choices of their life.

Emphasis on free will, the ability of humans to make choices and come to decisions of their life instead of relying on societal standards, people are assumed to be motivated to make their own decisions about what they do with their lives.

- Carl Rogers - suggests people have positive regards that result from underlying wish to be loved and respected. Because it is other people who provide this positive regard, we become dependant on them. Our views of ourself and our self worth is a reflection of how we think others view us.

- Maslow - self actualization is primary goal of life. a state of self fulfillment in which people achieve their highest potential in their own unique way (Abraham Maslow)

Contextual - Bio-ecological

considers the relationship between individual and their physical, cognitive, personality and social worlds.

- It suggests that a person's unique development cannot be properly viewed without seeing how that person's is grown in such social & cultural context

The bioecological Approach (Bronfenbrenner)

5 levels of environment simultaneously influence individual

— we cannot fully understand development considering how a person is influenced by each of these levels

① microsystem - immediate environment in which children lead their daily life. (Home, caregivers, friends teachers)

② Mesosystem provides connection between the various aspects of the microsystems like links in chain, the mesosystem binds children to parents, students to teachers, employees to bosses, friends to friends — directly or indirectly influences — eg mother father bad day at office then is short tempered with her/his son/daughter at home.

③ Exosystem represents broader influence encompassing societal influences institution, such as govt, community schools, places of workship the local media have immediate major impact on personal development, and each affect how microsystem & mesosystem operates

④ Macro system represents larger cultural influences on an individual. Society in general, types of govt, religious, and political values systems
eg value a culture or society places on education or the family will affect the values of the people who live in that society

⑤ Chronosystem underlies each of the previous systems
It involves the way the passage of time, including his ^{chronological} ^{adult} ^{events} and more gradual ^(no. of women work outside of home) historical events changes childrens development

Vygotsky socio-cultural theory

- emphasizes how cognitive development proceeds as a result of social interactions between members of a culture.
- This theory emphasizes that there is a reciprocal transaction b/w the people and in a child's ~~develop~~ environment and the child.
- believed that people & setting influence the child who in turn influences the people and setting.
- This pattern continues in an endless loop
- child raised with his/her extend family nearby will grow up with a different sense of family life than a child whose relative live a considerable

distance away.

Those relatives are too affected by that situation and that child, depending on how close and frequent their contact is with the child.

Evolutionary Perspective

- Increasingly influential approach
- seeks to identify behaviours that is the result of our genetic inheritance from our ancestors.
- Evolutionary approach contend that our genetic inheritance determines not only such physical traits as skin and eye colour, but certain personality traits and social behaviours as well.
- For instance, behaviour such as jealousy & shyness is generated by genetic causes.
- ~~EP~~ EP draws heavily on ethology which examines ~~in~~ ⁱⁿ the ways in which our biological makeup influences behaviour.
- EP is one of the fastest growing field in the life span development behavioural genetics.

- Behavioural genetics studies the effect of heredity on behaviour.
- Behavioural geneticists seek to understand how we might inherit certain behavioural traits and how environment influences whether we actually display such traits.
- It also considers how genetic factors may produce psychological disorders such as schizophrenia.