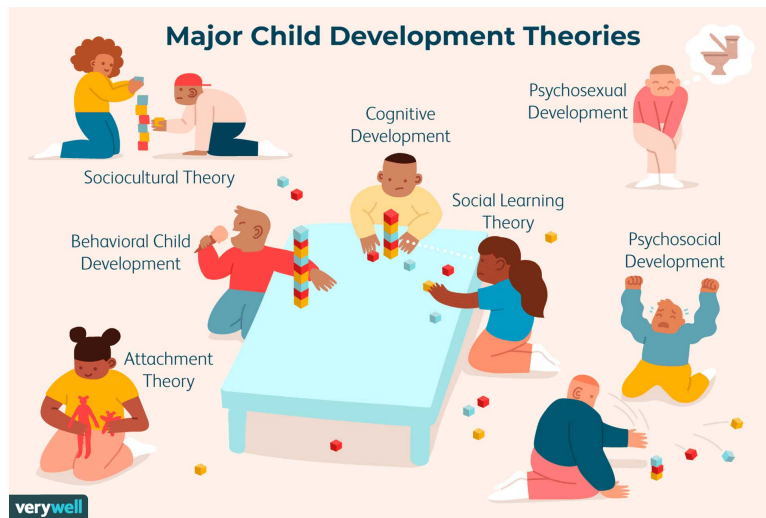




## Growing Up: The Amazing Stages of Child Development

Have you ever wondered how you change as you grow from a baby to a kid? Growing and learning is called child development. It's not just about getting taller. It's also about how you learn, play, speak, and act. All these things change as you get older.

One way to see how kids grow is by looking at milestones. Milestones are like checkpoints. They show what most kids can do at a certain age. For example, a baby might smile for the first time or take their first step. Kids grow at their own speed, but milestones help us know what to expect. Doctors use growth charts to check if kids are growing in a healthy way. These charts help them keep an eye on how kids are growing.

A famous scientist named Jean Piaget had a theory about how kids learn. He said kids go through different stages of learning as they grow. In the first stage, babies learn by touching and looking at things. Later, they start to use words and pretend. As they get older, they can think more logically and solve problems. Piaget believed that kids learn by doing and exploring the world around them.

Another important idea comes from Erik Erikson. He said that kids develop their personality as they grow. He thought that kids go through different challenges at different ages. If they solve these challenges, they grow up to be healthy and happy. For example, babies need to learn to trust their parents. Older kids need to figure out who they are and what they want to do.

The first five years are super important for a child's growth. During this time, kids learn so much. They learn to move, talk, and play. Parents can help their kids by playing with them and giving them lots of love and attention. Every child is different, and that's what makes growing up so amazing.

### Summary

- Child development is about growing, learning, playing, speaking, and acting.
- Milestones are like checkpoints that show what most kids can do at a certain age.
- Kids go through different stages of learning and personality development as they grow.



## Vocabulary

Review key vocabulary words from the reading.

### development

noun

The process of growing or changing and becoming more advanced.

*Learning to ride a bike is part of your physical development.*

### milestones

noun

Important events or achievements that mark progress.

*Taking your first step and saying your first word are important milestones.*

### scientist

noun

A person who studies science and does experiments to learn new things.

*The scientist studied plants to learn how they grow.*

### theory

noun

An idea or explanation that is based on some evidence but has not been proven.

*The scientist had a theory about why the sky is blue.*

### stages

noun

The different periods or steps in a process.

*Butterflies go through different stages as they grow, like a caterpillar and a pupa.*

### personality

noun

The combination of characteristics or qualities that form an individual's distinct character.

*Your personality is what makes you different from everyone else.*

### challenges

noun

Something difficult to accomplish.

*Learning to read can be a challenge, but it's also very rewarding.*



## Multiple Choice Questions

Answer the following multiple choice questions about the reading.

Comprehension

**1. According to the passage, what is child development?**

- A. Exclusively about learning to read and write before starting school.
- B. Only about getting taller as you grow from a baby to a kid.
- C. Growing and learning, including changes in learning, playing, speaking, and acting.
- D. Primarily about physical changes and improvements in athletic ability.

Comprehension

**2. What are milestones, as described in the passage?**

- A. Checkpoints that show what most kids can do at a certain age.
- B. Specific goals set by parents for their children to achieve.
- C. Rules that children must follow to ensure proper development.
- D. Rewards given to children for good behavior and academic success.

Comprehension

**3. According to Jean Piaget, how do children learn?**

- A. By strictly following instructions from teachers and parents.
- B. By competing with their peers to achieve higher grades.
- C. By memorizing facts and figures from books.
- D. By doing and exploring the world around them.



## Short Answer Questions

Answer the following short answer questions about the reading.

Comprehension

- 1. According to the passage, what do doctors use to check if kids are growing in a healthy way? Why is this important?**

Comprehension

- 2. According to the passage, who was Erik Erikson and what was his idea about how kids develop? Explain his theory in your own words.**

Comprehension

- 3. According to the passage, what is especially important for a child's growth? What can parents do to help during this time?**