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## Strargies And Stages of Slum Children's Development

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### Abstract:

*Child development is the period of physical, cognitive, and social growth that begins at birth and continues through early adulthood. This lesson discusses the theories, stages, and major milestones of child development .*

**Key words:** physical, cognitive, social

### What Is Child Development?

Child development refers to the process through which human beings typically grow and mature from infancy through adulthood. The different aspects of growth and development that are measured include physical growth, cognitive growth, and social growth. Child development focuses on the changes that take place in humans as they mature from birth to about age 17.

### Definitions of Child Development:

**Pablo Neruda:** - "A child who does not play is not a child.\*

**More and more:** - parents are conscious of the downsides of a generation that's allowed too little time to play. And pediatricians are now actively recommending play as an essential component of healthy brain development. But kickball isn't the only activity that counts as play. Here's a breakdown of Parten's 6 types of play, a classic tool developed by American sociologist Mildred Parten Newhall. It's applicable for children ages 2 to 5.

### Theories of Child Development

Sigmund Freud devised a psychosexual stage theory of development. He believed that children move through specific stages of development due to innate unconscious sexual drives. Freud's stage theory ends at adulthood.

Erik Erikson also created a stage theory of development, but his is a bit different from Freud's. Erikson focused more on social relationships as a driving force in development and referred to the developmental tasks as psychosocial stages. Erikson's theory is one of the most comprehensive and covers human development from birth through old age.

Lev Vygotsky's theory of development also focuses on social interactions as important in development. His theory views children in an apprentice role with parents mentoring them through developmental tasks.

### Stages of Child Development: Infancy

Most everyone agrees that babies are cute, but what is going on with babies developmentally? The period of infancy begins at birth and ends at two years of age. It's the most rapid period of growth throughout the lifespan. During this period of child development, human beings go from being helpless, reflexive babies to toddlers who can communicate and reason.

**Stages of Early Development: Early Childhood**

The early childhood, we usually think of ABCs and 123s. This period of early childhood development lasts from two years of age through six years of age. Physically, our center of gravity shifts from the breastbone, where it was when we were infants, to the belly button. Our physical growth occurs much more slowly during this period as compared to the rapid growth that took place during infancy.

**Children develop skills in five main areas of development:**

- Cognitive Development. This is the child's ability to learn and solve problems. ...
- Social and Emotional Development. ...
- Speech and Language Development. ...
- Fine Motor Skill Development. ...
- Gross Motor Skill Development.

At each stage of development your child is learning in several areas at the same time. A toddler is learning to walk (physical), learning colors (intellectual), is uncomfortable with strangers (social), expressing feelings of independence (emotional), and becoming aware of adult disapproval for misbehavior (moral).

**Types of Play Important to Your Child's Development****1. Unoccupied play**

Parten defined this as a child not engaged in play. But you could think of this as the “infancy” of play. Here, your baby or toddler creatively moves their body with no purpose other than it feels good and interesting. It's the most basic type of play: Your child is completely free to think, move, and imagine.

**2. Independent or solitary play**

When child plays alone, with little to no reference to what other kids or adults are doing. If they get this type of play through finding sticks on a walk, or reading a book quietly, that's totally up to them.

Recommended toys/activities: toddler-safe books, especially interactive ones like “Dear Zoo” or “From Head to Toe” a cardboard box, the granddaddy of open-ended, limitless toys, play kitchens, train sets, and other imaginative toys

**3. Onlooker play**

This is when your child observes the play of other children, while not actually playing themselves. So much of this play stage is inactive, but it's still significant. The ability to play with other kids is crucial to getting along in school and beyond. This is your baby's first stop in learning how. Take baby to the local park and let them watch kids play in the sandbox even if they do not want to leave you to join in. It's the perfect enclosed area for a younger child to observe others and see how they play.

If your child has siblings, encourage them to watch the older one's movements. While children under age 3 generally don't understand the concept of sharing, they can still start learning how to be a playmate to your older kid later on.

**4. Parallel play**

Though they may use the same toys, your child plays beside, rather than with, other children. Remember, learning to play is learning how to relate to others. In that sense, parallel play is that final stage before your child connects with another.

Recommended toys/activities: stacking and sorting blocks sticker books tunnels or low climbers with soft materials (you can always make a fort of your own and skip the purchase)

**5. Associative play**

Here, your child plays with other children, but the kids do not organize their play toward a common goal. Health line Partner Solutions.

Now is a great time to introduce more art supplies to your child's playroom, particularly the mess-proof kind. Around age 3, kids generally become more capable of handling small toys, and can be better trusted with Lego's and erector sets. A lot of these projects have preordained outcomes, which is perfect for the associative play period.

**6. Cooperative play**

Here you can see the beginning of teamwork. Your kid plays with others for a common purpose. In terms of play goals, this is the final developmental stage, because it's the same basic principle whether you're doing a school project, putting on a play, or playing a sport. A child you can engage in cooperative play can handle a classroom. Interacting, socializing, and communicating sets the stage for social success throughout life. It's an incredibly liberating and exciting step for every family.

**Conclusion :**

Playtime for children accomplishes some serious goals: cognitively, socially, and physically. Ensuring that there's unstructured time to explore is vital to your child's development, as well as to building a unique parent-child relationship. After all, you were a kid once, too. What a brilliant opportunity to remember what that felt like!

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