

Important Stage Theories from Developmental Psychology

1. Jean Piaget: Stages of Cognitive Development

<i>Stage</i>	<i>Typical Age Range</i>	<i>Description of Stage</i>	<i>Developmental Phenomena</i>
1. Sensorimotor	Birth – 2 years	Experience world through senses, actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Object permanence • Stranger anxiety
2. Preoperational	2 – 7 years	Mental representations with words & images; intuitive, rather than logical, reasoning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pretend play • Egocentrism • Language development
3. Concrete operational	7 – 11 years	Thinking logically about concrete events; understand concrete analogies & mathematical operations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conservation • Mathematical transformations
4. Formal operational	12 - adulthood	Abstract reasoning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abstract logic • Potential for mature moral reasoning

2. Lawrence Kohlberg: Stages of Moral Development

<i>Stage</i>	<i>Typical Age Range</i>	<i>Description of Stage</i>
1. Preconventional	Birth – 9 years	Morality based on self-interest; avoid punishment or gain rewards
2. Conventional	9 years – early adolescence	Obey laws and rules purely <u>because</u> they are the laws and rules
3. Postconventional	Early adolescence – adulthood (<u>for some people only</u>)	Morality based on personal, abstract values of right and wrong

4. Sigmund Freud: Stages of Psychosexual Development

<i>Stage</i>	<i>Approximate Age</i>	<i>Focus</i>
1. Oral	Birth – 18 months	Pleasure centers on the mouth (sucking, biting, chewing)
2. Anal	18 -36 months	Pleasure focuses on bowel and bladder elimination; coping with demands for control
3. Phallic	3 – 6 years	Pleasure zone is the genitals; coping with incestuous sexual feelings
4. Latency	6 years – puberty	Dormant sexual feelings
5. Genital	Puberty on	Maturation of sexual interests

3. Erik Erikson: Stages of Psychosocial Development

<i>Stage</i>	<i>Approximate Age</i>	<i>Issues/Conflict</i>	<i>Description of Task</i>
1. Infancy	Birth – 1 year	Trust vs. mistrust	If needs are dependably met, infants develop a basic sense of trust.
2. Toddlerhood	1 – 2 years	Autonomy vs. shame and doubt	Toddlers learn to exercise will and do things for themselves, or they doubt their abilities.
3. Preschooler	3 – 5 years	Initiative vs. guilt	Preschoolers learn to initiate tasks and carry out plans, or they feel guilty about efforts to be independent.
4. Elementary school	6 years – puberty	Competence vs. inferiority	Children learn the pleasure of applying themselves to tasks, or they feel inferior.
5. Adolescence	Teen years – 20s	Identity vs. role confusion	Teenagers work at refining a sense of self by testing roles and then integrating them to form a single identity, or they become confused about who they are.
6. Young adulthood	20s – early 40s	Intimacy vs. isolation	Young adults struggle to form close relationships and to gain the capacity for intimate love, or they feel socially isolated.
7. Middle adulthood	40s – 60s	Generativity vs. stagnation	In middle age, people discover a sense of contributing to the world, usually through family and work, or they may feel a lack of purpose.
8. Late adulthood	60s and up	Integrity vs. despair	When reflecting on his or her life, the older adult may feel a sense of satisfaction or failure.