

CHILDHOOD

# TODDLERHOOD

- *ages of one to two*
- *highlighted through : self-awareness, developing maturity in language use, and presence of memory and imagination.*
- *learning how to walk, talk, and make decisions for themselves*
- *development of language:communicate and express their emotions and desires through the use of vocal sounds, babbling, and eventually words*

- *Self-control also begins to develop*
- *begin to identify themselves in gender roles*
- *toddlerhood is commonly called the "terrible twos"*

# Early Childhood

- 2- 6 years
- a period of rapid - physical, mental, emotional, social and language development
- labeled as: (by parents) 'The Problem' ; 'The Troubles some, or 'The Toy' age,
- by the Educators as 'The Pre-school age'
- by the Psychologists - 'The Pregang, 'The Exploratory', or 'The Questioning' age,

# Characteristics of Early Childhood

- ***1. A period of physical development***
- gains height: about 3 inches per year
- generally have a height of 3 feet and 6 inches
- the “baby look” disappears.
- Difference in body build becomes apparent for the first time –fat/mascular/thin
- the baby teeth begin to be replaced by permanent teeth(last half year of early childhood)
- motor skills like - catching, throwing, running, jumping, climbing, riding a tricycle, self-feeding, dressing, balancing, colouring, drawing etc.

## ***2.A period of language development***

- “the chatterbox age”,
- ‘learning to speak’ is an essential tool in socialization and a tool in achieving independence.
- ***3.A period of emotional development***
- **anger, fear, jealousy, curiosity, envy, joy, grief, affection etc.**
- express anger through ***temper tantrums***, characterized by crying, screaming, stamping, kicking, jumping up and down, or striking.

## ***4.A period of Social Development***

- develops his social qualities in his family/neighbourhood
- plays with his friends / also quarrels.
- He comes to know of teasing, imitating, quarrelling, sympathy, sharing, co-operation etc.

## ***5.A period of Development of Understanding:***

- Increase abilities :to reason and to see relationships, of people, objects and situations
- Understands-the simple relationships, like - parents, sibling, relatives etc
- know their sex, their full names, and names of different parts of their bodies.
- develop the concepts of bodily functions, space, size, numbers, colours, shapes, time, self, beauty etc.



## ***6.A period of Development of Interests***

- i) Interest in play, ii) Interest in human body, iii) Interest in self, iv) Interest in clothes, v) Interest in Religion and vi) Interest in Sex.
- great interest in self: - looking at themselves in mirrors, examining the different parts of their bodies and their clothes, asking questions about themselves, comparing their possessions with those of their playmates etc.
- curious about where babies come from and ask many questions about this.
- Normally in this stage male child is attached to the mother and the female child to the father

# Problems During Childhood

- **1Eating problems**
- i) Not eating,  
ii) Vomiting,  
iii) Dawdling, (doing something in a slow, lingering way  
iv) Weaning
- These eating problems affects in child's physical as well as mental development.

## 2. Elimination Problem

- Toilet training has perhaps been given the greatest attention.  
Method of toilet training: long term consequences for later personality
- **3. Sleeping Problem**
- the discrepancy between his hour of retiring and the bed time of the other family members. The child does not want to be left out of any activities by going to sleep early.
- fear to the darkened bedroom

- **4.Accidents:**

can affect the head, feet, legs, hands, arms, body and face of a child.

Accidents affect the child both physically and psychologically, which may affect the child's personality development in his later life.

- **5.Social Adjustment Problems**

# Late Childhood Stage

6 years to 12 years

- Entry into formal schooling and ending in the advent of puberty
- Entrance into first grade is a milestone in every child's life/major change in the pattern of their lives
- Parents' name this period as – the troublesome age and quarrelsome age;
- educators call it as - elementary school age and critical period,
- and psychologists named the late childhood as - gang age, creative age and play age.

# Characteristics of Late Childhood Stage

- **1.A period of Physical Development**
- period of slow and uniform growth
- The bones harden; the height and weight increase
- improvement in a child motor development, skills
- child develops skills like - self-help skills, social-help skills, school skills and play skills.
- a child normally has twenty - eight of the thirty - two permanent teeth.

## 2.A period of Development of Intellectual Ability

- Exercise his or her power of memory, attention, thinking and imagination and can solve problems intelligently
- I.Q. at this stage developed considerably
- **3.A period of Capacity to Learn**
- develop interest in reading, writing and arithmetical activities.
- Awareness and sense of subordination to the school rules, laws and discipline.
- A sense of discipline and some sense of responsibility

# 4.A period of Social Development

- Widening social environment & interaction
- learns the spirit of sharing with others.  
feel, think and act together with others
- share joy and sorrow with them.
- **5.It is a Play Age** : Group play and group activity make the child more social, loyal and disciplined.
- Acquire social virtues like friendship,
- co-operation and competition
- love to live in groups



## 6.It is a Gang Age

- Learn to live an organised group life
- sense of loyalty to the gang
- Learns rules and code of conduct of the gang and uphold them quite faithfully and obediently.
- **7.A period of Emotional Development**
- Understands that expression of unpleasant emotions, is socially unacceptable
- acquire a strong incentive to learn to control the outward expressions of their emotions.

# 8.A Period of Development of Concepts

- broadening of interests and understanding of people and things
- Concepts associated with- Life, Death, Bodily functions, Space, Numbers, Money, Time, Self, Sex Roles, Social Roles, Beauty, Discipline etc.

## 9. Development of Homo-sexuality

- feel the sense of their physical attachment to their same sexes. Boys love playing with the boys and the girls with the girls.
- Latency period

- **10. Development of Constructive Instincts**
- **11. A period of Development of Creativity**
- **12. A Period of Development in Sex - Role Typing**
- ‘Sex Role Typing’ means learning to conform to the approved roles for one’s sex.
- Children learn to play sex-roles by three common methods, viz. imitation, identification and child - training.
- Sex role typing has profound and far reaching effects on children’s behaviour.

# Hazards of Late Childhood

- **Physical Hazards:**
  1. **Illness:** occasional colds and stomach upsets.
  2. **Obesity:** Obesity in older children may be due to a glandular condition but it is more often due to overeating.
- Studies of fat children have revealed that they eat faster, take bigger bites and are more likely to ask for second or third helping than their age-mates.

- **3. Sex Inappropriate Body Build**
- **4. Accidents:**

# Psychological Hazards:

- **Speech Hazards** –
- **Emotional Hazards** –
- **Social Hazards** - rejected or neglected by their peer group
- **Play Hazards:** lack social acceptance are deprived of opportunities to learn the games and sports which are essential for them to belong to their gang
- Such children may develop the habit of being rigid conformist.

- **Moral Hazards**

- 1) The development of a moral code based on peer or mass - media concepts of right and wrong which may not coincide with adult codes;
- 2) A failure to develop a conscience as an inner control over behaviour;
- 3) Inconsistent discipline which leaves children unsure of what they are expected to do;
- 4) Physical punishment which serves as a model of aggressiveness in children;
- 5) Finding peer approval of misbehavior so satisfying that such behaviour becomes habitual; and
- 6) Intolerance of the wrong-doings of others.

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