

3-6 DEVELOPMENT

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Body Growth

- Compared to infancy, gains in body size taper off
- Body fat declines – leaner and longer



Body Growth

- Cartilage hardens into bone



2½ years



6½ years



14½ years

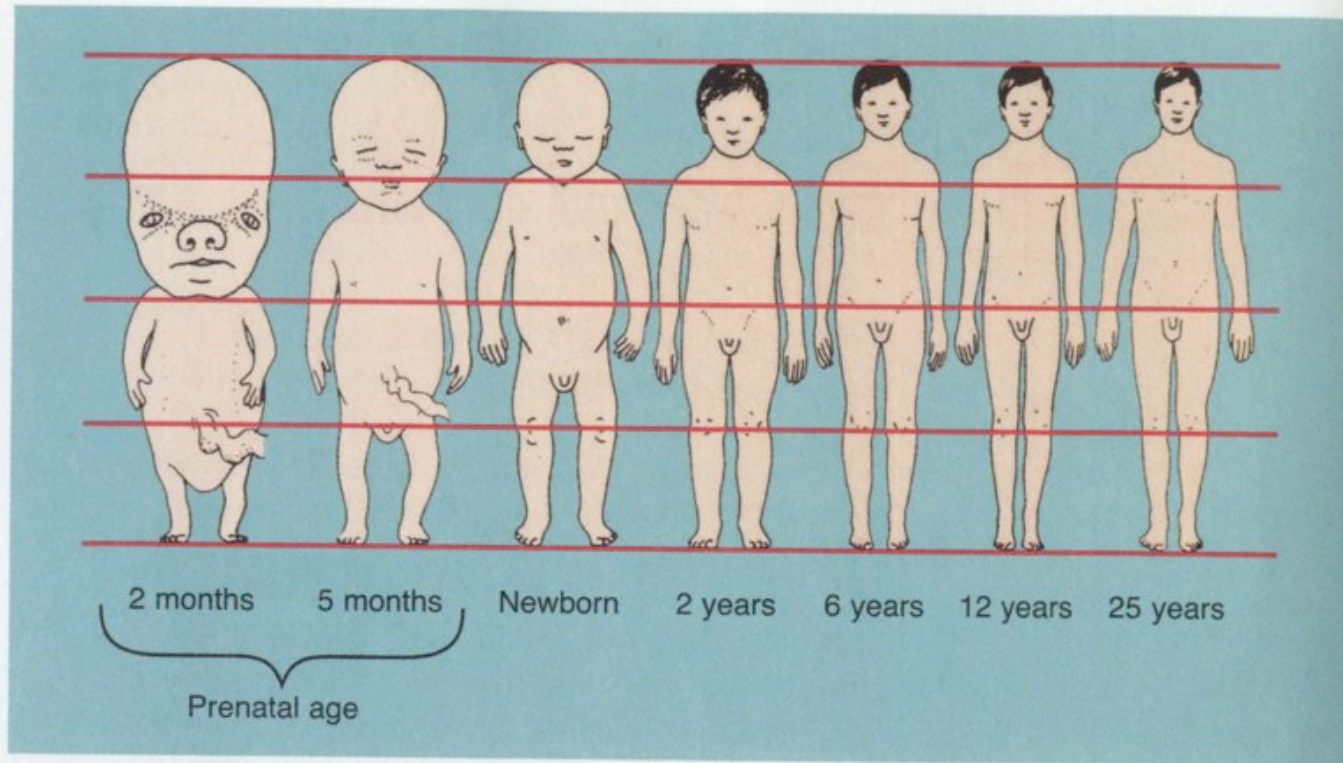
Body Growth

- By end, begin to lose primary teeth
- Tooth care remains important

Body Growth

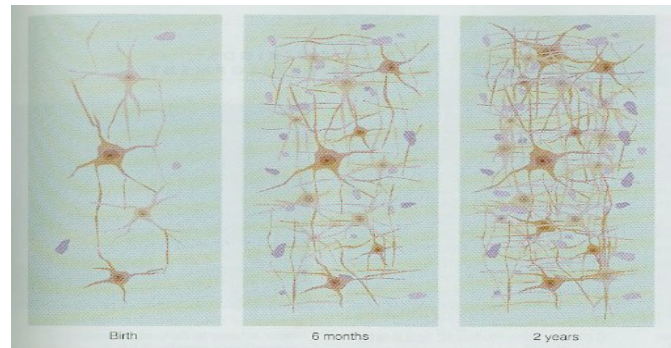
- Different parts of the body grow at different rates
- General growth curve
 - Rapid during infancy
 - Slower during early and middle childhood
 - Rapid in adolescence

Body Growth



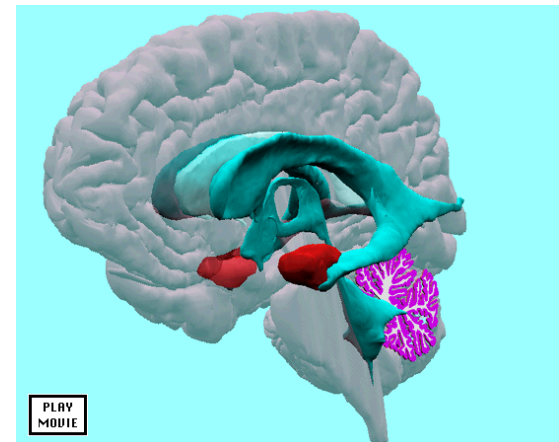
Brain Development

- Neural fibers continue to form synapses and myelinate
- Over-produced synapses are pruned
- Plasticity of the brain is reduced



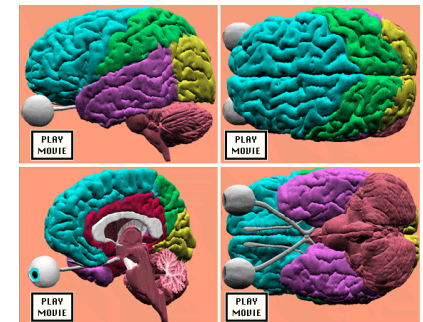
Brain Development

- Left hemisphere grows more rapidly than right due to language development
- Hand preference is fairly stable by 2
- Handedness indicates dominant hemisphere

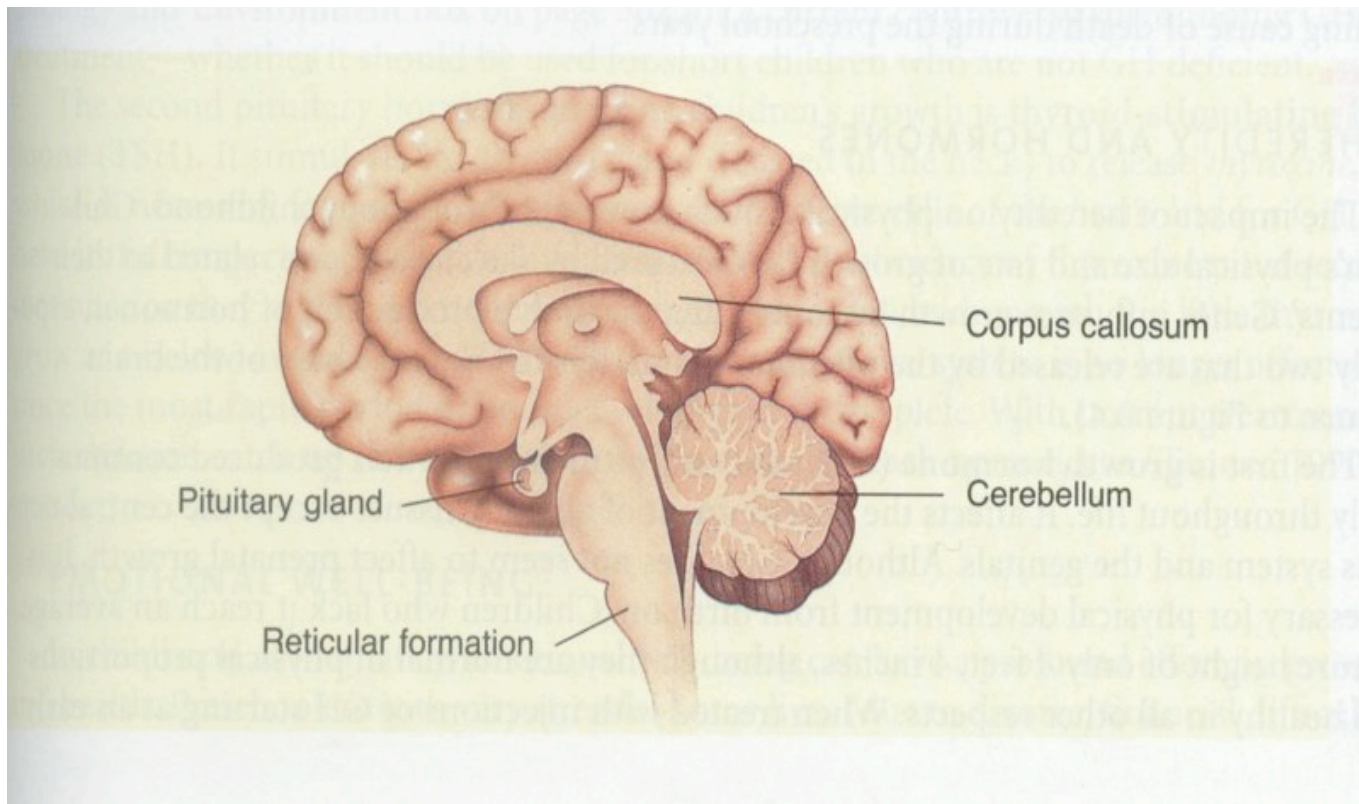


Brain Development

- Fibers linking the cerebellum and cerebral cortex myelinate
- Reticular formation – responsible for alertness and consciousness
 - and
- Corpus callosum connecting two hemispheres myelinate rapidly

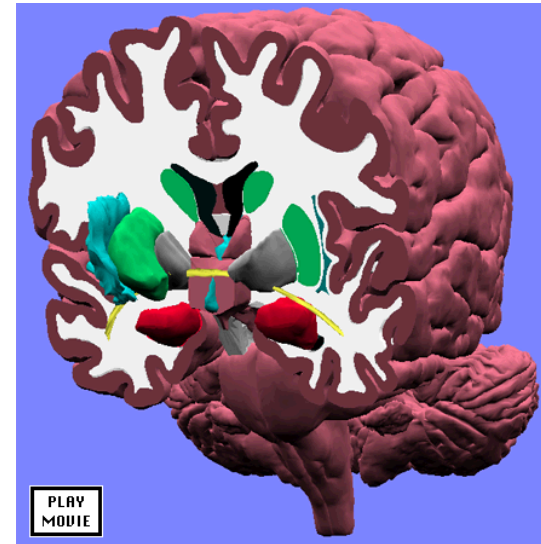


Brain Development



Factors affecting growth

- Hereditary control over pituitary growth hormones
- Emotional well-being continues to influence body growth



Factors affecting growth

- Restful sleep
 - Body growth
 - Positive family functioning
- Bedtime routines are helpful
- Persistent sleep problems are often due to illness or family stress



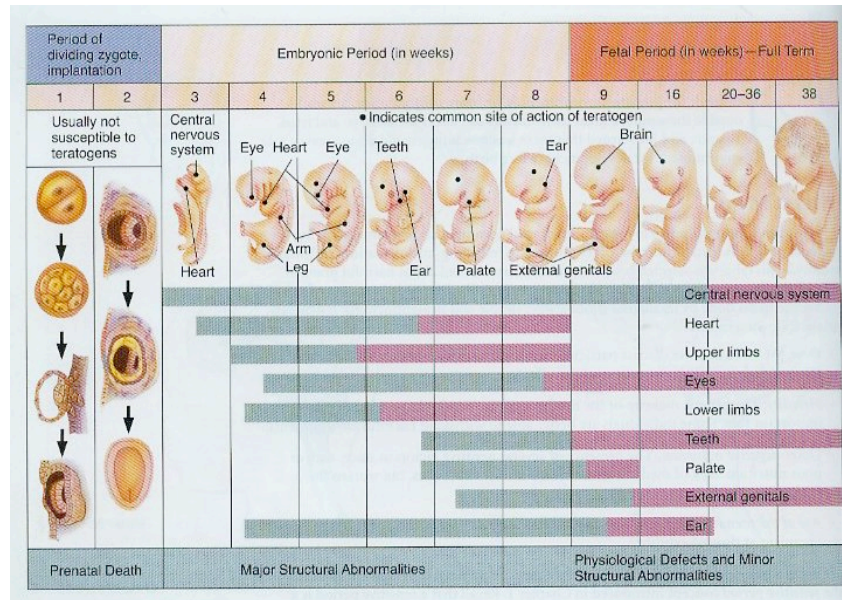
Factors affecting growth

- Appetite declines due to slower growth rate
- Social environments have strong impact on food preferences



Factors affecting growth

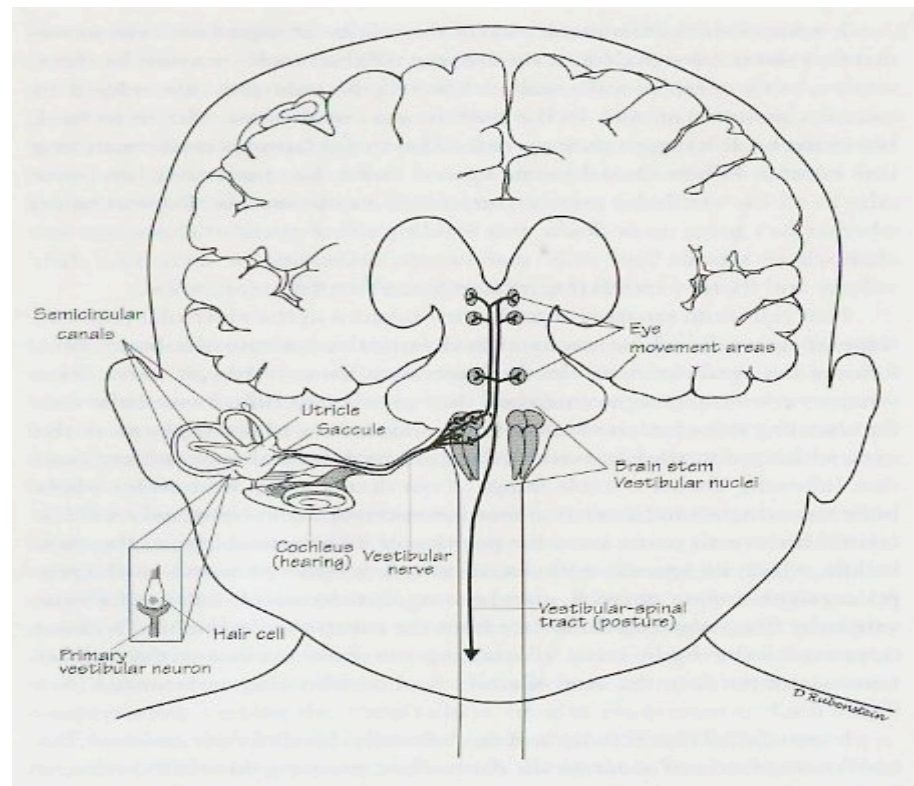
Malnutrition can combine with infectious diseases to undermine healthy growth



Factors affecting growth

- Childhood illness rises with day-care attendance.
- Middle ear infection (otitis media)
 - Delays language process
 - Interferes with socialization
 - Academic performance is less strong

Factors Affecting Growth



Factors affecting growth

- Childhood injuries should be prevented as much as possible
 - Family stress
 - Poverty
 - Teenage childbearing
 - Creating safer environments at home, travel, and play
 - Education parents

Motor Development

- Previously acquired skills are integrated into more complex actions
- Gait becomes smooth and rhythmic
- Running, jumping, hopping, and skipping appear



Motor Development

- Gains in control of hands and fingers lead to dramatic changes in fine motor skills
- Dressing and eating become more independent



Motor Development

- Scribbles change to pictures
- Drawings become more complex and realistic
- Begin printing letters and numbers followed by words



Motor Development

- Body build, ethnicity and sex influence motor skills
- Environment plays a role in girl/boy differences
- Play experiences are essential for skill mastery



Perceptual Development

- Brain maturation increases visual + motor skill
- Exposure to reading materials increases perceptual development



COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT

- Piaget - thought
 - Egocentric and animistic thinking
 - Unaware of viewpoints other than their own
 - Inanimate objects have thoughts, feelings and intentions like they do



COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT

■ Now – we know

- When we use objects they are familiar with – not egocentric
- Adapt their speech to their listeners
- Adjust their descriptions to take context into account
- **Do** think rocks, clouds, etc are alive – due to incomplete information not animistic thinking
- Believe in magic as a way to explain things they don't understand

COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT

- Piaget thought
 - Unable to conserve



- Now we know – it's true
 - Their understanding is centered on one aspect of a situation while neglecting others
 - Easily distracted by appearances
 - Cannot connect the beginning and end results

COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT

- Piaget thought
 - They use transductive reasoning- particular to particular – often incorrectly linking occurrences and drawing wrong conclusions
- Now we know
 - They do better if we give examples from their real world. They can
 - Notice changes
 - Reverse their thinking
 - Understand cause and effect in familiar situations

COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT

- **Piaget thought**

- Lack of hierarchical classification
 - They tended to center on the over-all feature of one group and couldn't generalize



- **Now we know**

- Their everyday knowledge is nested into categories
- By age 2, they have strong awareness of daily categories
- Over preschool years can do complex categorizing aided by their language

COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT

- Piaget thought
 - They had trouble with appearance versus reality



- Now we know
 - They need familiar situations with simple vocabulary to maximize more complex connections

COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT

- Vygotsky – now we know
 - Scaffolding (Zone of Proximal Development) stretches children's cognition and language



- Not egocentric but private speech

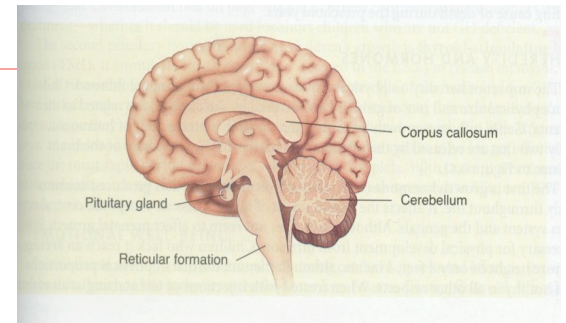
COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT

- Vygotsky – now we know
 - Private speech - Helps them talk their way through situations
 - It increases their attention and reasoning
 - Make-believe play fosters cognitive development – social rules and internal ideas
 - Preschoolers who think about pretend world are more flexible

COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT

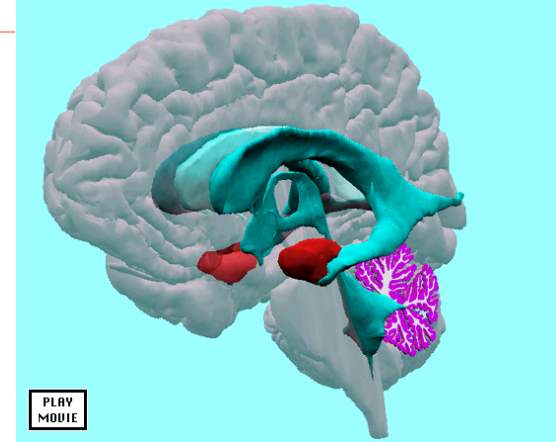
■ Information processing

- Attention gradually becomes more sustained and planful during early childhood
- Recognition memory is remarkably good
- Memory strategies are weak so have trouble remembering lists



COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT

- Information processing



- Memory for everyday experiences is well developed
- Remember familiar experiences in terms of scripts that become more elaborate with age
- Begin thinking about thought (metacognition)

COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT

- Information processing

- They understand a great deal about written language long before they can read and write



- Experience and scaffolding helps them to refine their awareness of written language

COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT

- Information processing

- Toddlers know *ordinal* numbers

3 > 2 and 2 > 1

- Preschoolers grasp *cardinal* numbers – the last number in a counting sequence indicates the amount of items in a set

COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT

- Language development
 - Children's vocabulary grows rapidly during preschool years
 - Figure out meaning of new words by contrasting them with words they know



COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT

- Language Development
 - Look to adults behavior to figure out meanings of new words
 - With sufficient vocabulary, begin coining new words and creating metaphors



COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT

- Language Development

- 2-3 Basic word order of their language is developed
- 5-6 Grammar rules have been acquired

COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT

- Language Development
 - Children appear to have a language capacity that supports the discovery of grammatical regularities
 - Practical language (pragmatics) emerge by age 4 with child adjusting speech to audience

COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT

- Language Development

- Conversational give and take with more skilled speaker fosters preschool language skills
- Need a language rich environment

EMOTIONAL/SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

- Erickson
 - Initiative versus Guilt
 - Need opportunities for successful choices



EMOTIONAL/SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

- Self Development

- Self-concept

- Observable characteristics
 - Typical beliefs, emotions and attitudes



EMOTIONAL/SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

■ Emotional

- 2-3 Have an understanding of causes, consequences and behavioral signs of basic emotional reactions
- 3-4 Aware of strategies that assist with emotional regulation



EMOTIONAL/SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

- Handling negative emotions
 - Temperament
 - Adult modeling
 - Conversations about feelings



EMOTIONAL/SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

■ Peer Relations

- Interactive play increases
 - Nonsocial activity
 - Parallel play
 - Associative
 - Cooperative
- Solitary and parallel remain throughout preschool for many children



EMOTIONAL/SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

■ Peer Relations

- Friendship is seen on concrete, activity-based terms
- Interactions with friends are positive and cooperative
- Adults offer informal play activities and offer advice, guidance and examples

EMOTIONAL/SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

- Foundations of Morality
 - Discipline based on fear of punishment DOES NOT foster conscience development



- Reinforcement and modeling are basis for moral action

EMOTIONAL/SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

■ Foundations of Morality

- Age 4 – Distinguish between truthfulness and lying



- Peer interaction allows opportunity to work out ideas about justice and fairness

EMOTIONAL/SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

■ Foundations of Morality

- All children will demonstrate aggression at some time
 - Overt – more common on boys
 - Relational – more common in girls



- Ineffective discipline and conflict-ridden atmosphere promote and sustain aggression

EMOTIONAL/SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

- Foundations of Morality
 - Televised violence promotes aggression
 - Young children's limited understanding of TV increases their acceptance and imitation of what they see

EMOTIONAL/SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

■ Gender Typing

- Gender types are more like over-riding rules than flexible guidelines



- Higher activity and overt aggression in boys is linked to gender typing

EMOTIONAL/SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

- Child Rearing
 - Authoritative
 - Demanding and responsive
 - Promotes cognitive, emotional and social competence
 - Caring concern, explanations and reasonable demands account for its effectiveness

EMOTIONAL/SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

■ Child Rearing

- Authoritarian – high demands, low responsiveness = anxious, withdrawn behavior
- Permissive – responsive but undemanding = poor self control and achievement
- Uninvolved – low demands and low responsiveness = disrupts all aspects of development