

PRESCHOOLERS COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT

Piaget described the age from two until seven as the preoperational-thinking stage. Some signs of preoperational thinking are:

- a. Children learn that objects and words can be symbols.
- b. Children learn through fantasy, creative, and dramatic play.
- c. Children continue to view the world in terms of themselves. They are self-centered.
- d. Children find it difficult to focus on more than one thing at a time.

The first intelligence test was developed by the French psychologist, Alfred Binet, in 1905. Later, Stanford University adapted the test. It is now called the Stanford Binet test.

The score or intelligence quotient (IQ) is simply a number that tells whether a child shows intelligence that is average or above or below average for his/her age. The average IQ is 90 to 110.

Four-, five- and six-year-olds learn from a wide variety of experiences.

The following techniques are helpful when working with children:

- a. Look for opportunities to talk with children about what they are doing.
- b. Ask questions that require more than a yes or no answer.
- c. Ask a child's opinion or views about something.
- d. Children need to be included in cleanup tasks.
- e. Talk to children when traveling or going places about what they see and visit.
- f. Help children to learn and understand their world through experiments.

Whether or not children enjoy reading, art, and music depend largely on the attitudes of their parents.

By school age, language ability is one of the most dependable indications of intellectual development.