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**UNIT:** Growth and Development

**LESSON:** School Age--Cognitive

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**COMPETENCIES:**

Describe signs of cognitive development in school-age children. (Options 2, 3, 4, and 5)

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**OVERVIEW/SUMMARY:**

The school-age children are excited to develop cognitive skills. They are in Piaget's concrete operational stage. It is important to stimulate the child to learn while he/she is anxious to do so.

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**MOTIVATOR:**

Use a poster of Robert Fulghum's "All I Needed to Know I Learned in Kindergarten." Read it with the students. After reading it, pass out warm cookies to the students. Briefly discuss the concepts highlighted on the poster.

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**LESSON OPTIONS/SUPPLIES:**

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OPTION 1

BOOK: How Much Is A Million

JOURNAL ENTRY: Have students write about the jokes they used to tell as a school-age child or have them write about their kindergarten school year memories.

OPTION 2--Competency 1

Use the teacher notes to discuss Piaget's concrete operational stage.

OPTION 3--Competency 1

Use the teacher notes to discuss school-age children and their joketelling and how it demonstrates cognitive development.

OPTION 4--Competency 1

Recite the ancient Chinese proverb:

"When I hear, I forget"

"When I see, I remember"

"When I do, I understand"

Briefly discuss the concepts in the proverb and then have the students write a one-page essay on how it relates to school-age children. Have them include some of their own experiences while in elementary school.

OPTION 5--Competency 1

Have the students use the "School-age Interview" to interview children between 6-12 years of age. Discuss some of their findings and experiences on the day the interviews are conducted.