



4 DOMAINS OF CHILD DEVELOPMENT

DEFINITION

Child development refers to the biological, psychological, and emotional changes that occur in children from birth through adolescence. It includes the development of physical abilities, such as motor skills and sensory perception, as well as cognitive abilities, such as language, memory, and problem-solving. Child development also involves social and emotional development, including the formation of attachments, self-awareness, and social relationships. Overall, child development is a complex and dynamic process that is influenced by a variety of factors, including genetics, environment, culture, and experiences.

Cognitive development – This domain focuses on a child's intellectual abilities, including their memory, attention, problem-solving skills, language development, and creativity.

Social & Emotional development – This domain refers to a child's ability to manage and express their emotions, form relationships, and develop empathy and social skills. It also involves a child's ability to interact with others, develop friendships, and understand social norms and expectations. It can include their understanding of their own identity and culture.

Language – This domain can be dependent on the other developmental domains. The ability to communicate with others grows from infancy, but children develop these abilities at different rates. Aspects of language development include:

Phonology: Creating the sounds of speech

Pragmatics: Communicating verbally and non-verbally in social situations

Semantics: Understanding the rules of what words mean

Syntax: Using grammar and putting sentences together

Physical development – This domain encompasses a child's growth and changes in their body structure and function, including their motor skills, sensory abilities, and physical health.

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