



 Thursday, December 9, 2021

**How Infants Think and Feel:
What the Research Tells Us**

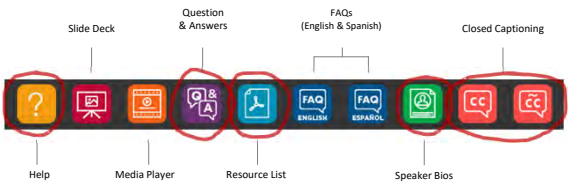
Dawson Nichols, PhD
Beth Zack, PhD

NCECDTL




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Webinar Features

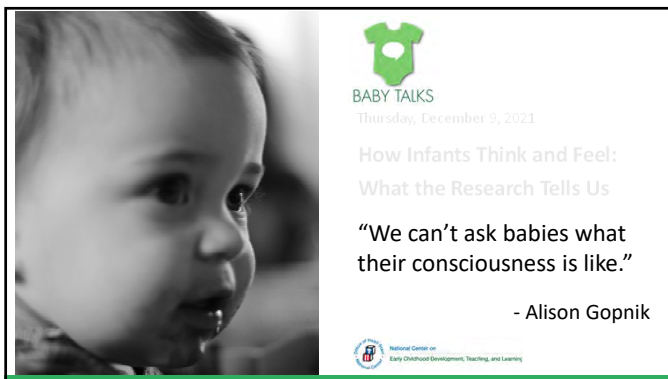



Slide Deck Question & Answers FAQs (English & Spanish) Closed Captioning

Help Media Player Resource List Speaker Bios



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 Thursday, December 9, 2021


**How Infants Think and Feel:
What the Research Tells Us**

“We can’t ask babies what their consciousness is like.”



- Alison Gopnik




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What does this child see?

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Learning Objectives






1. Describe development during the first year of life.
2. Identify ways in which infants process information differently from older children and adults.
3. Explain practices that promote learning and development during the first year.

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Babies learn through experiences.





1. Describe development during the first year of life.
2. Identify ways in which infants process information differently from older children and adults.
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Presenters




Dawson Nichols,
PhD



Beth Zack,
PhD




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POLL

First Memories

- A – I remember something before my 1st birthday.
- B – I remember something before my 2nd birthday.
- C – I remember something before my 3rd birthday.
- D – I remember something before my 4th birthday.
- E – I remember something before my 5th birthday.
- F – My first memories come from grade school.



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Is there a photo of your first memory?



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A Time Before Memories ?

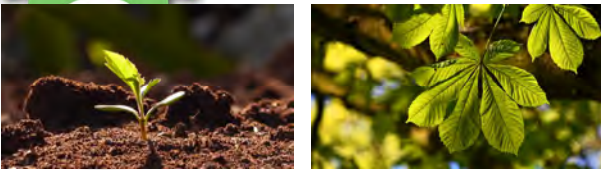


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Streri, 2013; Fillipa, 2021; Moon, Lagercrantz, & Kuhl, 2013

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Beginnings Look Different



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What does this child see?



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Video Reflection



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Video Reflection

Parentese works

The child's environment includes...adults!



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Principles of Development, Birth to One

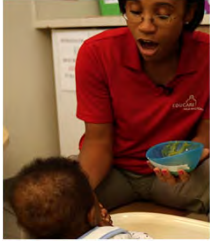


1. I learn through experience, and I need help getting access to the things that will help me learn and grow.



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Principles of Development, Birth to One



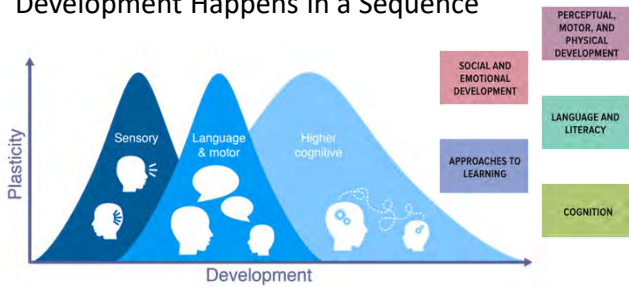
1. I learn through experience, and I need help getting access to the things that will enrich me.



Mennella & Bobowski, 2015

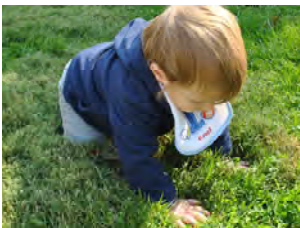
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Development Happens in a Sequence



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Development of the Senses

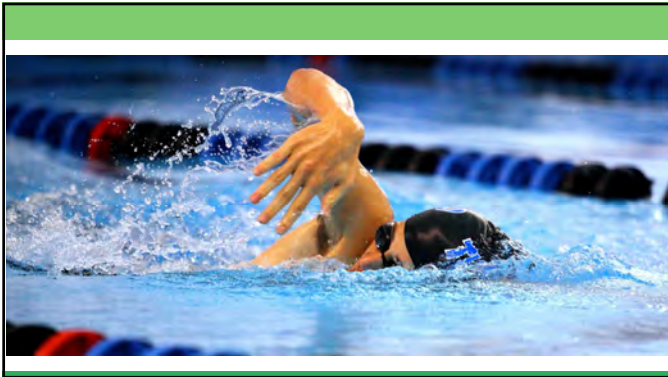


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Principles of Development, Birth to One



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Nurturing Children and Families




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What does this child see?



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Video Reflection



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Infant Imitation



Meltzoff & Moore, 1977; Brazelton & Nugent, 1995

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Principles of Development, Birth to One



1. I am fascinated by people and I readily learn from them.
2. I learn through experience, and I need help getting access to the things that will help me learn and grow.
3. I need help navigating change and regulating my emotions.

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Behavior IS Communication



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What is this child saying?



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Video Reflection



“The developmental history of a new skill can have a surprisingly twisted and nonobvious path.”

Soska et al., 2010

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Language Learning Involves Experimentation



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Statistical Language Learning

I love your big blue eyes so pretty and nice.

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Statistical Language Learning

tokibugikobagopilatipolutokibu
 gopilatipolutokibugikobagopila
 gikobatokibugopilatipolugikoba
 tipolugikobatipolugopilatipolu
 tokibugopilatipolutokibugopila
 tipolutokibugopilagikobatipolu
 tokibugopilagikobatipolugikoba
 tipolugikobatipolutokibugikoba
 gopilatipolugikobatokibugopila

Saffran, Aslin, & Newport, 1996

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Statistical Language Learning

tokibugikobag**gopilatipolutokibu**
gopilatipolutokibugikobagopila
 gikobatokibug**gopilatipolugikoba**
 tipolugikobatipolu**gopilatipolu**
 tokibug**gopilatipolutokibugopila**

After 2 minutes of listening, children were able to tell which combinations of sounds made up "real" words.

Saffran, Aslin, & Newport, 1996; Flo, 2019

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Infants Can Learn Any Language



Encourage families to speak their home language.



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Practices to Help All Children Learn Language



- Speak to children in the language you are most comfortable with. Encourage families to do the same.
- Use parentese when you speak and read to infants. Help families do the same.
- Pause during back-and-forth interactions to let infants respond. Help families do the same.
- Narrate your actions, thoughts, and feelings.

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Principles of Development, Birth to One



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2. I learn through experience, and I need help getting access to the things that will help me learn and grow.
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Caregiving Is a Relationship



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Thank You!

Join Us For Our Next Episode!
Thursday, April 21, 2022
3pm– 4pm EST