

Learning activity 3

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### Learning Activity #3

**APPLY: When Timmy was 18 months old, his mother stood behind him, helping him throw a large ball into a box. As his skill improved, she stepped back, letting him try on his own. Using Vygotsky's ideas, explain how Timmy's mother is supporting his cognitive development.**

Lev Vygotsky theory is based of his belief that social interactions plays a fundamental role in cognitive development. He believes that we learn first with someone else such as a parent or a teacher showing us and teaching us. Then we further learn by doing it on our own. In the above scenario Timmy's mom starts by helping him throw the ball into the box. This is her acting as the teacher showing him what to do. Then she steps back and allows him to try to do it on his own. This is the part where he learns on his own.

This kind of reminds me of how school works. School starts with a teacher lecturing about material teaching the content. Then homework is assigned which allows the student to learn and try it on their own. I wonder if they based this off from this theory.

**REFLECT: Describe your earliest autobiographical memory. How old were you when the event occurred? Do your recollections fit with research on infantile amnesia?**

Probably my earliest memories that I can recall I was probably 3 or 4 not really sure this happened a lot when I was young. I used to draw pictures and my mom would put them on the fridge. I would wait until my dad got home so I could show him I was always so excited. He would come home and look at them (they were pretty bad) he would tell me there is no way I was able to draw something so good must have been done by a high schooler. I thought that was the coolest thing and would try to convince him that I did it. Also around the same time I remember my brother and I used to wait for him to get home from work. When he got home we would hold on to his legs as he walked around the house. This was such a happy memory from my childhood

Both of these memories line up with what the book said about infantile amnesia. It says that adults are not able to recall memories any earlier then 2-4. I was 3 maybe 4 so that makes sense.

**CONNECT: Using what you learned about brain development in Chapter 4, explain why it is best to initiate intervention for poverty-stricken children in the first two years rather than later.**

The first 2 years of life are so important for brain development. Children that are not taken care of properly may have issues through their whole life. Children from poor families are at a higher chance of experience abuse and neglect. A neglected baby will not develop proper coping mechanism. For example a baby will stop crying when they are hungry or need something if no one responds when they do. This can literally change the way their brain develops and can cause

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a lot of issues with coping later in life. It is important to intervene before this happens which needs to be when they are babies.

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Reference

Berk, L. E. (2018). *Development through the lifespan*. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson.