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Human Behavior II  
Reflection #6

***Describe Erickson's developmental stages found in middle childhood. How can Erickson's theory be useful for the assessment?***

The developmental stage which is found in middle childhood according to Erickson is known as the Industry vs. Inferiority stage. In this particular developmental stage, children are learning skills that will help develop their competence in intellectual, social, and physical skills. Children in this stage of life seek to gain recognition and approval from parents, teachers, and peers. Success in these endeavors can lead to a sense of confidence, while failure can lead to feelings of inferiority, insecurity, and low self-esteem.

This particular development theory can be useful for assessment, to help track social-emotional progress in children, and also can help determine the effect of certain risk factors. Erikson's theory can provide a useful framework for understanding the developmental challenges of middle childhood and designing assessments to support healthy development in this stage of life.

***Discuss the significance of peer relationships in middle childhood. How can peer relationships support development in middle childhood? How can peer relationships impede development in middle childhood?***

In the Middle childhood stage of life, this is when children will start to be exposed to different relationships that are outside the family unit. Peer relationships bring more exposure to various different ideas, thoughts, and beliefs which will continue to help develop the child more socially and learn different skills that can help maintain relationships. Through peer relationships areas of emotional intelligence, and self-esteem can also be developed. Children in middle childhood are also very sensitive and oftentimes peer relationships can impede development

when you consider bullying, and rejection, which can contribute to the development of inferiority within the child.

***Discuss the development of social cognition, in particular, social role-taking and interpersonal awareness. How can social cognition function to support and/or impede development in middle childhood?***

Social role-taking refers to the ability to understand and take on the perspectives of others. This skill develops gradually during middle childhood, as children become better able to understand others' thoughts, feelings, and motivations. This skill is essential for effective communication and social interaction, as it allows children to anticipate and respond appropriately to others' needs and expectations.

Interpersonal awareness, on the other hand, refers to the ability to understand and regulate one's own emotions and behaviors in social situations. This skill is also crucial for effective social interaction, as it allows children to express themselves in ways that are appropriate and effective in different social contexts.

Social cognition can help develop skills that children need to have effective communication and healthy conflict resolution. However, it can also impede development if not properly developed, and can result in children having poor communication skills, struggling to build strong relationships, and not handling conflicts effectively.