

The definition of attachment is the long-standing connection or bond one has with others. Attachment is one of the milestones of childhood development. In his research on attachment Harlow wanted to know things like how do infants reach this milestone and why do some children have attachment differences compared to others? How much do babies really love its mother?

Through his experiments with monkeys, Harlow discovered two important pieces of information. The monkeys preferred the surrogate mother made from soft cloth as opposed to the wire mother that fed the monkey. This showed that there was more involved in bonding than just nourishment. The common school of thought at the time was that babies bonded with those who provided food. Secondly, it demonstrated that comfort and security are vital in the development of attachment. This explains why some children have attachment differences. Feelings of comfort and security lead to healthy psychological development.