- Concrete Operational Stage
  o 7 – 11 years
  o Conservation
    ▪ Physical characteristics of objects remain the same even when their outward appearance changes
  o Decentration
    ▪ Ability to focus on several aspects of a problem at once and relate them
  o Hierarchical Classification
    ▪ Ability to flexibly regroup and regroup objects into hierarchies of classes and sub-classes
  o Seriation
    ▪ Ability to order items along a quantitative dimension
  o Transitive Inference
    ▪ Ability to seriate mentally
- Formal Operational Stage
  o 11 years and up
  o Hypothetico – deductive reasoning

Predictions that are logical and testable

Formal Operational Stage (11 years and older)

- Hypothetico-deductive reasoning: predictions that logical and testable
- Imaginary audience: focus on everyone’s attention
  o No one is paying as much attention to you, but you think they are
  o Feel very self-conscious
  o Metacognition: thinking about thinking
    ▪ Think they’re thinking about you
- Person fable: no one has been through what I’m going through
  - “I’m special”
  - “You don’t know how it feels”

Abstract thought: thinking about possibilities

Language Development

- How do babies communicate?
  - Babble
  - Look
- How do we develop language?
  - The Behaviorist Perspective
    - B. F. Skinner
      - We learn through operant conditioning
        - A type of learning where behavior is controlled by consequences
      - Positive reinforcement
        - Rewarding desired behavior
        - Think of when a baby babbles – the parents get excited and shower the infant back and more attention – positive reinforcement!
    - Imitation / modeling
  - The Nativist Perspective
    - Noam Chomsky
    - Language Acquisition Device
      - Biologically – based innate system that enables a child to detect certain language patterns; phonology, syntax, and semantics
  - Interactionist Perspective
    - Native capacity
    - Strong desire to interact with others
    - Rich linguistic and social environment

Terms:

- Phonology
  - The sound system of a language
- Syntax
  - The ways words are combined to form acceptable phrases and sentences
Two factors that babies (both human and animal) need for survival:

- An intense emotional relationship that emerges over time
- The strong emotional bond that children form with their primary caregivers

Attachment

Babies whose mothers respond quickly and consistently to their cries in the first few months

Synchrony

Two components found in social interactions:

- The ability of the caregiver to soothe the infant is central to developing trust and an attachment to the caregiver
- Biologically, we are programmed to be wary of harsh stimuli

Trust

An appraisal of another's dependability and genuineness

What is trust?

The transmission of meaning depends on:

- Definition
- Pragmatics
- Echoing
- Recasting
- Red flag

Motherese

How do we speak to babies?

- *First words* emerge around 12 months
- Variegated babbling
- Phonation stage
- Grammar

Concrete operational stage

Predictions that are logical and testable

Development of make predictions

2 This stage is divided into substages

- Disequilibrium
- Assimilation
- Resolution can be challenged or shaken at any time in later development, for better or worse

The way in which we resolve the problem/task/crisis at each stage will have an effect on subsequent stages

Our attention is placed on a particular task

- Optimism
- Person fable: no one has been through what I'm going through

Hypothetico –...
Infant’s distress often exceeds their capacity to soothe themselves:
- When they are distressed they:
  - Suck their thumb
  - Hold onto a blanket
  - Suck a pacifier
  - Turn their head away from whatever is bothering them
- The ability of the caregiver to soothe the infant is central to developing trust and an attachment.

Two Components Found in Social Interactions:
- Matching
  - Presence of same or similar behaviors
    - Cooing
    - Smiling
    - Being upset
- Synchrony
  - Movement from one emotional state to another in a fluid pattern
*These become more coordinated over time

- As time goes by, mother/father and baby learn to regulate the amount of time that passes between a need and satisfying the need
- Babies whose mothers respond quickly and consistently to their cries in the first few months

*PICK UP THOSE CRYING BABIES – YOU WON’T ‘SPOIL’ THEM!

Attachment
- The strong emotional bond that children form with their primary caregivers
  - Typically their mother
    - Not always, but most of the time
- An intense emotional relationship that emerges over time
  - Attachment is NOT present at birth

John Bowlby’s Attachment Theory

- Two factors that babies (both human and animal) need for survival:
  - Protection