

CHAPTER : 6

DEVELOPMENT FROM INFANCY TO CHILDHOOD - I

Development of infancy can be divided into 2 parts-

- (i) Newborn infants (birth to 1st month)
- (ii) Infancy (1st month to 5 years)
- (i) Newborn infants or neonatal period (birth to 1st month) - Newborn baby in the early month of life is called a neonate.
- (ii) Infancy (1st month to 5 years) - The stage from 1st month to 5 years of age is called infancy. In this, 1st month to 2nd year is infancy and from 2nd year to 5th year is early childhood.

Development of a child from birth to 1st year is described in fig 6.1.

Though an infant is physically immature and dependent and has limited cognitive ability but changes gradually begin to appear and child learns to walk, roam, speak etc. there are certain standards of different developmental changes during infancy but each child develops according to his own capacity and speed.

Developmental acts

1. Regulation of defecation
2. Learning solid food intake
3. Learning to walk
4. Gender differences
5. Learn to differentiate between right and wrong and learn to develop conscience
6. Getting ready to study

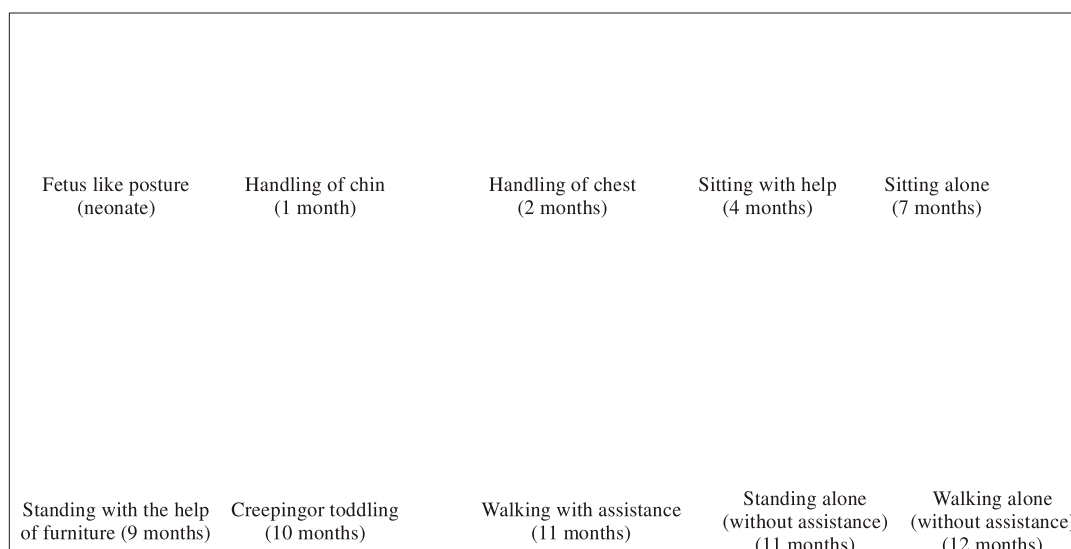


Figure : 6.1 Development of Child (infancy)

Different developmental stages in a child's life are explained in short in table 6.1

Table : 6.1 Developmental Stages

	Newborn to infancy	Infancy	Early- childhood
Physical development	Weight of the body doubles (12-15 pounds). The height of head is $\frac{1}{4}$ of the body's height. The nature of skin changes and new hair grow on scalp.	Upto 2 years of age, height increases by 2 inches and weight grows by 2-3 pounds. Activities like walking, running, cycling etc are learnt.	Compared to infancy growth in this stage is slow. During this stage, height grows by the rate of 3 inches per year. This stage is very important for learning skills. A child learns eating by himself, wearing clothes, buttoning, throwing a ball, etc.
Cognitive development	Child begins to develop sensation for things. Infant searches for moving stimuli. He learns to differentiate between colour brightness and intensity, reaction to noise stimulus, blinking an eye, etc.	Child begins natural activities like crying, throwing things etc. he begins to execute actions based on experiences. He learns to co-ordinate with situation and performs activities imitating elders such as combing, brushing, etc.	In later childhood, child expresses himself through actions, skills and talents. He learns to differentiate between people, thinking in reverse order, logical thinking, etc.
Language development	In the process of language development, baby learns to cry which involves the respiratory system.	Child begins to blabber, make some noises and uses some facial expressions.	In this advancing age, due to increased age and increasing learning abilities child develops his own vocabulary. With age, this vocabulary increases and with the completion of 5 years of age, he learns to frame complete sentences.
Social development	The child shares special attachment with the person on whom he is physically dependent and therefore he likes mother's touch. When the baby starts to recognize people he remains happy and content in their company and becomes unhappy, discontent when he is separated.	In this age, baby responds with a smile to a person whom he recognizes. He performs actions like hand-leg movements, shrieking etc. to attract attention. He differentiates between family and strangers by smiling at family members and remains silent with strangers	In this stage, parents, relatives, are main agents. As the child begins to interact with outsiders his world begins to grow. His dependency on parents decreases. This stage is also known as 'pre-gang' stage. Child begins to develop attachment towards peers/agemates

Emotional development	Emotional development and social development go hand in hand. Initially he has like and disliking emotions. Only three types of emotions are present at the time of birth-fear, anger, and love. The aggravation at the time of birth develops into emotions w	According to Bridges in this stage, first there is emergence of distress and happiness. In the 5 th month, distress, anger, hatred, fear, jealousy etc emotions begins to surface. Happiness in the 20 th month, after 2 years, with learning and maturity, the changes occur.	In this stage the emotional experiences increase. Anxiety, extreme fear, hatred are main emotions that are expressed in this stage. Activities like Playing, jumping, running makes children tired and brings about extreme emotional expressions.
Personality development	Neonate period is a sensitive age for personality development. The foundation of a child's personality on which the entire personality depends is laid in this stage. The child stays with the parents for the entire time and parent's relation has considerable effect on his personality. If he gets favourable environment he grows into a supportive being.	In this stage, ego of a child develops and the ego makes the core of a child's personality. The more rigid the ego factor is, more difficult it is to bring a change in personality. Modesty plays an important role in personality development.	Personality pattern is a result of interaction of heredity and environment. Initially family plays an important role in development of 'self'. As the child begins to go to school, this 'self' begins to grow according to social pattern. Children learn mobility. They imbibe qualities by unbirthing self and modesty together make a balanced personality

FACTORS AFFECTING INFANCY

Physical factors

1. Negative parental environment
2. Difficult and complicated childbirth
3. Multiple births
4. Late maturity
5. Early maturity
6. Infant mortality rate

Psychological factors

1. Traditional belief about birth
2. Helplessness
3. Specialty of child
4. Developmental delay
5. Obstruction in development
6. Lack of motivation
7. New parental depression

IMPORTANT POINTS

1. Changes in weight and height of child take place under physical developmental changes.
2. Child begins to develop sensation and begins activities like crying, throwing things, reaction to noise stimulus as part of cognitive development.
3. Different social, language, emotional, and personality development is observed in a child.
4. Development of infancy can be divided into 2 parts-
 - (i) Newborn infants (birth to 1st month)
 - (ii) Infancy (1st month to 5 years)
5. Infancy (1st month to 5 years) - Stage from 1st

month to 5 years of age is called infancy. In this, 1st month to 2nd year is infancy and from 2nd year to 5th year in early childhood.

6. Physical and psychological factors affect development of infancy.
7. Neonate period is a sensitive age for personality development. The foundation of a child's personality on which the entire personality depends is laid in this stage.

EXERCISE

1. Choose the correct option:

- (i) Infancy be divided Into how many parts can
 - (a) One
 - (b) two
 - (c) Three
 - (d) four
- (ii) Which is the first activity in language development performed by an infant?
 - (a) Laughing
 - (b) shrieking
 - (c) Speaking
 - (d) shouting
- (iii) Which of the following emotion is not present immediately after the time of birth?
 - (a) Fear
 - (b) love
 - (c) Anger
 - (d) jealousy

- (iv) In which age does a child begin to blabber?
 - (a) newborn infancy
 - (b) infancy
 - (c) early-childhood
 - (d) later-childhood
- (v) Which stage is known as 'pre-group' stage?
 - (a) newborn infancy
 - (b) infancy
 - (c) later- childhood
 - (d) early- childhood

2. Fill in the blanks

- (i) _____ development and social development go hand in hand.
- (ii) Personality pattern is a result of interaction of _____ and _____.
- (iii) Weight of the body _____ during newborn infancy.
- (iv) With the completion of _____years of age he learns to frame complete sentences.
- (v) In early-childhood 'self' begins to grow according to _____ pattern.

ANSWERS

1. (i) b (ii) b (iii) d (iv) b (v) d
2. (i) emotional (ii) heredity, environment (iii) doubles (iv) Five (v) social