

## Jean Piaget: Theory of Cognitive Development

Stage	Age	Description
Sensorimotor	0-2 years	<p>During this first stage, children learn entirely through the movements they make and the sensations that result. They learn:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• that they exist separately from the objects and people around them</li><li>• that they can cause things to happen</li><li>• that things continue to exist even when they can't see them</li></ul>
Preoperational	2-7 years	<p>Once children acquire language, they are able to use symbols (such as words or pictures) to represent objects. Their thinking is still very egocentric though -- they assume that everyone else sees things from the same viewpoint as they do.</p> <p>They are able to understand concepts like counting, classifying according to similarity, and past-present-future but generally they are still focused primarily on the present and on the concrete, rather than the abstract.</p>
Concrete Operational	7-11 years	<p>At this stage, children are able to see things from different points of view and to imagine events that occur outside their own lives. Some organized, logical thought processes are now evident and they are able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• order objects by size, color gradient, etc.</li><li>• understand that if <math>3 + 4 = 7</math> then <math>7 - 4 = 3</math></li><li>• understand that a red square can belong to both the 'red' category and the 'square' category</li></ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>understand that a short wide cup can hold the same amount of liquid as a tall thin cup</li> </ul> <p>However, thinking still tends to be tied to concrete reality</p>
Formal Operational	11+ years	Around the onset of puberty, children are able to reason in much more abstract ways and to test hypotheses using systematic logic. There is a much greater focus on possibilities and on ideological issues.

### George Herbert Mead: Stages in the Development of 'Self'

Stage	Age	Description
Preparatory Stage	0-3 years	-Imitating the behaviour of others
Play Stage	3-5 years	-Able to assume and play roles of others -Learn the meanings associated with those roles
Game Stage	Early School Years	-Take on several roles simultaneously -Able to take role of generalized other

### Carol Gillian: Three Stages of Moral Development for Women

Stage	Characteristics
Orientation toward individual survival	-What is practical and best for self -Gradual transition from selfishness to responsibility, including thinking about what would be best for others
Goodness as self-sacrifice	-Initial view that a women must sacrifice her own wishes for others want -Gradual transition to taking into account the needs of self and others
Morality of non-violence	-A moral equivalence is establish between self and others, hurting anyone is immoral

