

Developmental issues



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(Q1) Bronfenbrenner offers 10 propositions which offer insight into the application of theory and the influences on development. Seven are highlighted in the Text. What are these:

1. Early childhood teachers must understand the experiences of children through "objective observation" and discussing children's experiences with them. (Objectives Aligned with NAEYC Standards, page 58)
2. Early childhood teachers must encourage the family to learn about child development and know how to interact with their children in a way that allows their development to progress, (Objectives Aligned with NAEYC Standards, page 58).
3. There are various biological and environmental factors that affect development of the child, and these factors often interact with each other, (Objectives Aligned with NAEYC Standards, page 58).
4. There must be more than one adult that a child interacts with and develops emotional bonds with in order for his/her cognitive, physical, social and emotional functions are to develop, (Objectives Aligned with NAEYC Standards, page 58).
5. There must be a strong emotional attachment between parents and children, since this drives children to take an interest in the world around them, (Objectives Aligned with NAEYC Standards, page 58).
6. Children develop faster when the adult they form emotional attachments with is seen interacting and being supported by another adult figure, (Objectives Aligned with NAEYC Standards, page 58).
7. The behavior and development of children have an impact on the well being of their parents, (Objectives Aligned with NAEYC Standards, page 58).

(Q2) What are some development issues that families experience?

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1. Parents have to learn how to divide their time between their job and child rearing , (Objectives Aligned with NAEYC Standards, page 59).
2. New parents often feel challenged and question their ability to successfully raise their children, (Objectives Aligned with NAEYC Standards, page 59).
3. The arrival of a new baby adds a lot of stress to parents lives since often new couples do not receive any support or help from outside, (Objectives Aligned with NAEYC Standards, page 59).
4. New couples feel exhausted trying to meet the " non-negotiable" needs of their baby, (Objectives Aligned with NAEYC Standards, page 59).
5. Women may face postpartum depression after their baby is born, (Objectives Aligned with NAEYC Standards, page 60).
6. The attitudes towards child rearing is gendered, and often when the father is not spending enough time at home with the children or giving the required resources to manage the family, a stressful home environment is created which affects the proper development of children, (Objectives Aligned with NAEYC Standards, page 62).

(Q3)As a childcare provider, answer the following questions:

1. List some concerns that new families may have who are just putting their child into care for the first time?

Doubts about the quality and affordability of child care

How can parents interact with childrens learning in and out of childcare?

How well educated is the child care staff about child development?

2. What are elements found in “ quality care”?

It involves responsive adult-child interaction, a curriculum that is geared towards the development of children, proper assessment that allows

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caregivers to develop curriculums and gauge child's performance and show it to their parents, involvement of parents in their child's learning, caregivers with knowledge about childhood development, and small groups with higher adult to children ratio, (Objectives Aligned with NAEYC Standards, page 63).

3. What does research say about the use of technology for children under the age of two?

Access to screen media should not be allowed, (Objectives Aligned with NAEYC Standards, page 65).

4. How does “work” impact families?

Children may develop characteristics that are harmful to their development if not their parents' jobs do not give much time for them to pay attention to their children. Over-demanding jobs, job insecurity, unsupportive co-workers, long hours etc create stress in working parents, (Objectives Aligned with NAEYC Standards, page 73).

5. Who are “extended family members” and how do their relationships impact young families?

They are grandparents, (Objectives Aligned with NAEYC Standards, page 75).

Grandfathers can act as father figures for children, grandparents and grandchildren are often free of emotional conflict with each other (Objectives Aligned with NAEYC Standards, page 77). Grandparents can look after the children of full-time employed parents, grandparents have a stabilizing effect on the emotional lives of children (Objectives Aligned with NAEYC Standards, page 75).

6. What are some “ethical considerations” for supporting families?

The dignity and interests of all family members must be respected, parents' child-rearing values must be acknowledged, to develop rapport between

parents and support institutions, (Objectives Aligned with NAEYC Standards, page 78-79).