

Developmental Neuroscience

I. As a “theoretical” approach

A. Assumptions

B. Methodology

1. Dev Neuroscientists ask questions like..
2. Techniques

C. Some Interesting findings...

- Principles

II. Evaluation and Discussion

- 1) What contribution do you see Developmental Neuroscience making to the study of development? How might the findings of DN studies aid us/affect other theoretical approaches?
- 2) Consider whether causal relationships are present here. Are associations between brain changes and cognitive changes indicative of causality?
- 3) What limitations do you see in using this approach?

Emotional/Self Development

I. Temperament

A. Models of temperament

1. Thomas & Chess
2. Rothbart
3. Buss & Plomin

B. Measurement of temperament

C. Research on temperament

1. stability
2. heritability
3. Temperament as predictor

D. Social/Environmental influences

- goodness of fit
- Family environment predicts changes in temperament (Belsky)
- Niche-picking

E. Student presentations

F. Future directions

II. Emotional Development

A. Discussion

- What is emotion? According to Thompson, what are the components of emotion development (What develops)?
- What are the functions of emotions? What do they “do” for us?

B. Emotion and cognition

C. Emotion and relationships

III. Self - Discussion

- 1) Describe the developmental progression of the development of self.
- 2) Self, emotion, temperament all contribute to “personality”. What is personality? Why would it be important to be able to predict to adult personality?
- 3) Discuss the cultural context for development of emotion, self, and temperament. In what ways does culture create diversity in these domains?