



A Student's Guide to Developmental Psychology

By Margaret Harris, Gert Westermann

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This major new undergraduate textbook provides students with everything they need when studying developmental psychology.

Guiding students through the key topics, the book provides both an overview of traditional research and theory as well as an insight into the latest research findings and techniques. Taking a chronological approach, the key milestones from birth to adolescence are highlighted and clear links between changes in behaviour and developments in brain activity are made. Each chapter also highlights both typical and atypical developments, as well as discussing and contrasting the effects of genetic and environmental factors.

The book contains a wealth of pedagogical features to help students engage with the material, including:

- Learning objectives for every chapter
- Key term definitions
- Over 100 colour illustrations
- Chapter summaries
- Further reading

- Suggested essay questions.

A Student's Guide to Developmental Psychology is supported by a companion website, featuring a range of helpful supplementary resources including exclusive video clips to illustrate key developmental concepts.

This book is essential reading for all undergraduate students of developmental psychology. It will also be of interest to those in education, healthcare and other subjects requiring an up-to-date and accessible overview of child development.

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Editorial Review

Review

"This is a child development text that students will actually read. Rather than the standard textbook that is too heavy in more than one sense, this book presents key studies in developmental psychology in a manner that is as engaging as a detective story; just as science should be. As well as up-to-date and interesting information on all aspects of child development, *A Student's Guide* teaches methodology almost surreptitiously, through its thoughtful critiques of studies, comparisons between competing interpretations and demonstrations of how new research paradigms can expand and modify previous work. The emphasis on the latest contributions to our knowledge of child and adolescent development through new techniques in neuropsychology, genetics and computer modelling make this very much a book of the 21st century, as does the resultant rebalancing of the nature-nurture debate to emphasise the importance of 'nature in context'. – Susan Moore, Swinburne University of Technology, Australia

"This book is really refreshing in style and scope. It covers a large range of developmental science well. It presents developmental psychology as a scientific discipline and provides useful, current empirical examples, which students will appreciate. ... It is very well-written and the material is interesting and useful. The authors have a friendly, engaging style. It reads like someone is telling you why developmental psychology is interesting and valuable over coffee (not like someone is lecturing you)." – Jessica Horst, University of Sussex, UK

"This book will guide students of Developmental Psychology through the key theories and methodological approaches that have advanced our understanding of human development – from the prenatal stages to the challenges of adolescence. Students will find this a useful resource with a comprehensive and authoritative coverage of child development." – Deborah Riby, Durham University, UK

"This book provides students with a well-researched, well-organised introduction to current issues in developmental psychology. It is written in an engaging and thought-provoking manner that will get the reader reanalysing many of their previously-held opinions about current research in the field. In other words, precisely what you need to get students in the habit of questioning accepted dogma." ? Nivedita Mani, Georg-August-Universität Göttingen, Germany

"This highly topical text begins by asking the big questions in developmental psychology. Organized by age rather than topic, each chapter then proceeds to address the major questions and ideas in the field via the latest research with infants, children and adolescents. Key theories and study methods are made interesting and research is brought to life with good use of photos, figures, and stories." – Karen Waldie, University of Auckland, New Zealand

"From infancy to adolescence, Harris and Westermann skilfully introduce the major developmental events at each stage. Important topics, such as brain development, are discussed at each of the chronological period to ensure continuity. Many students read psychology because of its perceived relevance to a better understanding of human behaviour and of themselves. They are sometimes discouraged when they find out that much of that understanding is obtained through laborious studies and the use of careful statistical methods. Worse still, they have to learn those methods themselves!

Harris and Westermann provide a gentle introduction to the discipline that helps demystify and, more importantly, reinforces the importance of the discipline." ? *Kerry Lee, National Institute of Education, Singapore*

"A Student's Guide to Developmental Psychology offers fresh perspectives on theories of developmental psychology. The text navigates the various domains of human development – from infancy to adolescence – in the most comprehensive fashion." – *Li-fang Zhang, The University of Hong Kong*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Linda Young:

This A Student's Guide to Developmental Psychology book is just not ordinary book, you have it then the world is in your hands. The benefit you will get by reading this book will be information inside this publication incredible fresh, you will get details which is getting deeper you actually read a lot of information you will get. This A Student's Guide to Developmental Psychology without we understand teach the one who looking at it become critical in thinking and analyzing. Don't be worry A Student's Guide to Developmental Psychology can bring whenever you are and not make your case space or bookshelves' turn out to be full because you can have it in your lovely laptop even phone. This A Student's Guide to Developmental Psychology having good arrangement in word along with layout, so you will not sense uninterested in reading.

Michael Jones:

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