



## Human Development Across the Lifespan

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By John S. Dacey; John F. Travers

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Human development refers to the physical, cognitive, and psychosocial development of humans throughout the lifespan. What types of development are involved in each of these three domains, or areas, of life? Physical development involves growth and changes in the body and brain, the senses, motor skills, and health and wellness. Cognitive development involves learning, attention, memory, language, thinking, reasoning, and creativity. Psychosocial development involves emotions, personality, and social relationships.

Physical Domain.Â Do people across the world share more similarities or more differences in their development? How much do culture and genetics influence a childâ€™s behavior? Stage theories hold that the sequence of development is universal. lifespan human development An approach to studying human development that examines ways in which individuals grow, change, and stay the same throughout their lives, from conception to death. When people use the term development, they often mean the transformation from infant to adult. However, development does not end with adulthood. Lifespan theorists believe that development is life-long, and change is apparent across the lifespan. No single age period is more crucial, characterizes, or dominates human development. Consequently, the term lifespan development will be used throughout the textbook. Development is multidirectional. Humans change in many directions. We may show gains in some areas of development, while showing losses in other areas. Every change, whether it is finishing high school, getting married, or becoming a parent, entails both growth and loss. Development is multidimensional. We change across three gen