Introduction to Child Development Sixth Edition

John P. Dworetzky



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Each year thousands of professors, myself included, review new textbooks searching for one we might wish to adopt, and each time we search for the textbook we'll never find—the one that would be just right for each and every student and still fit well with our own method of teaching. Even so, when I began writing, it was my hope to come as close to that kind of book as possible. My hope was to incorporate the content and format that I thought would be of most value to both professors and students, while keeping in mind that professors may have widely varying methods of teaching child development and that students will come to the course with different backgrounds and goals.

For this reason, this text attempts an integration of the popular formats used in most child development texts and holds them together with an SQ3R organization. As an author, I have been very pleased with the comments I have received from so many professors and students expressing their support for the first five editions.

Those unfamiliar with the text will find that the sixth edition continues to rely on the feedback and input from adopters throughout the United States, Canada, and overseas. Such feedback from the field has truly helped to make this a successful text, for which I am very grateful.

Because this is an introduction to child development, the basic content essential to all introductory courses has been included. At the same time, emphasis has been given to topics that have recently become important in the research literature. There is also an attempt to resolve a problem peculiar to textbooks on child development, that of whether to present material topically or chronologically. Material presented topically usually covers each topic as a whole. Students obtain information about such topics as cognitive development, moral development, or social development in a single go. Unfortunately, this approach often leaves students with a poorer sense of continuous development than does the chronological approach, in which different topics are covered in relation to different age groups. For example, the first few chapters of a chronologically based text may discuss many topics relating to infants and then, in the next chapters, may discuss the same topics as they relate to 2-, 3-, and 4-year-olds. In the next chapters, again, the same topics may be discussed in relation to school-age children, and so on. The problem with this approach is that students are exposed to major concepts piece-meal. Because of this the entire flow of the material may be disrupted. I have tried in this textbook to combine the best of both topical and chronological approaches. The material within each chapter is organized topically, while the general course of the text and the flow of each chapter from beginning to end is chronological.

PREFACE

There is also an emphasis on multi-cultural and gender issues throughout the text in keeping with the spirit that child development is the study of all children.

As for the depth and level of the coverage of this text, I have tried to continue the example of the first five editions and present complex technical ideas in a way that will maintain interest. I hope that you, the reader, will find that the material is set down in a comprehensible, enjoyable, and interesting way.

Organization of the Textbook

As you may already have noticed in skimming through the text, the format is unusual. Each chapter is divided into sections. First there is a Chapter Preview, which presents an interesting fact about or perspective on the material contained within the chapter. Following the Chapter Preview is the main body of the text, which provides the basic information within each chapter. Contained within each chapter are At Issue sections, which highlight and discuss important issues currently being debated in the literature or press. Following the main body is the Applications section, in which a topic or area covered in the chapter is applied in order to solve a problem or to deal with day-to-day issues. Next is a Summary in which the text material is reviewed. A For Discussion section sometimes follows the Summary section; it briefly deals with an unusual topic related to the chapter content. Following this in all chapters are Questions for Discussion, which are meant to stimulate discussion in class or among friends or classmates who are interested in the topic. The questions are provocative and answers are not provided, since many different answers are possible. The final section is Suggestions for Further Reading. Students often find a particular area exciting and want to learn more. I have been careful to select books that present new or thought-provoking material that you may enjoy. In this way you may pursue a particular area in order to do research or follow up your own interests.

Acknowledgments

It would be impossible to write a textbook without the help and cooperation of many others. I would like to thank those who kindly and generously gave their time to review this book and to provide criticism, encouragement, comments, suggestions, and ideas. I wish to express my personal appreciation to the following members of our academic community who assisted in the preparation of previous editions:

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I also wish to thank Parkwood Composition Service for their extremely fast and skillful typesetting, Jan Lamar and all the others at West Publishing who have had a part in preparing this textbook. A special thanks to Dr. Arleen Lewis for many of the wonderful photographs in the text and to Dr. Nancy Davis for her valuable advice and information.

John P. Dworetzky

● TO THE STUDENT

How to Use the Unique Features of this Textbook

This book is based on a method known as SQ3R. SQ3R is a five-step plan that was developed by Dr. Francis P. Robinson. The SQ3R method is designed to promote effective studying, and the letters S-Q-R-R-R refer to the five steps.

The First Step: Survey The S in SQ3R stands for survey. The first thing to do is survey the assigned chapter. Read the titles and the headings. Glance at the captions under illustrations and pictures; read the summary at the end of the chapter. This may seem like an unusual way to begin, but it is the way the SQ3R method is designed, and it's effective. Usually you read a summary in order to review what you've covered in the chapter. But in this case the Summary is the very first thing you should read. Although you may not understand everything, the summary will give you an overall picture of the chapter contents, and it helps us to reinforce the major points when you come to them in the chapter. Once you have read the entire chapter you may, of course, reread the Summary in order to refresh your memory.

The Second Step: Question The Q stands for question. In the SQ3R method, every topic is introduced as a question, a means of increasing your interest in what you will be reading and helping you to focus on the material to come. In this text, the questions are already provided for you. Flip through the text for a moment, and you'll notice them. You may find the interjection of questions in the text obtrusive at first, but you will quickly become used to them and find that the questions help you focus your attention. You may even find that you were about to ask many of the same questions. This shows that you are concentrating on the material and that you understand what is being presented.

The Third Step: Read The first R stands for read. You should read the material under one heading and stop before going on to the next heading. That is, you should cover one small area within a chapter at a time. Before continuing to read, go on to step four.

The Fourth Step: Recite The second R stands for recite. When you recite, ask yourself questions about the material you have just read and make sure that you are able to answer them. Your student study guide* can help you in this

^{*}If a student study guide for this text is not available in your bookstore, a copy may be obtained through West Publishing Company, or your bookstore may be able to order one for you.

because it contains questions with which you can test yourself. Once you know, by reciting, that you thoroughly understand what you have read, you can proceed to the next heading, reciting once again, before going on to the next heading, and so on.

Throughout the book you will find Learning Checks that help you to recite. If you can answer these Learning Checks correctly, you will know that you have read the material carefully and understand it. Remember, this is a textbook; it's a book for work. Don't feel uncomfortable about writing in it. It's not a completed work like *Moby Dick*. Add to it, make notes from class in the margins; fill in the answers in the Learning Checks where there are blanks; circle the answers to the multiple choice questions. Recording your answers will help you to remember the material and to catch errors.

The Fifth Step: Review Review is the final R in SQ3R. When you have read an entire chapter, review your notes, check through your student study guide, and look over any questions that you have written down. If possible, have someone read through the material and ask you about it. Make sure that you can answer the questions that have been posed. This is an important way of obtaining feedback.

Glossary Finally, you will find words set in boldface throughout the text. These are terms that are defined in the running glossary on each page near the first appearance of the term. If you are uncertain about the meaning of a term at later time, you can also look it up in the Glossary provided at the back of the book.

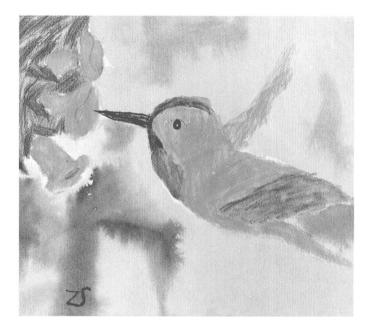
I hope that this text will provide you with a thorough introduction to child development, and that it will make you want to learn more.

John P. Dworetzky

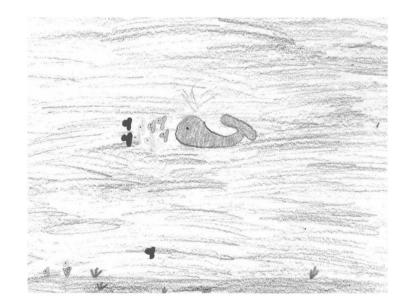
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Josh Levenson Age 10



Zach Seilo Age 11



Christa Keske Age 7

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