

# UNIT 9 — DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY (part 1)

Vocabulary Term	Definition of Term	Example
Zygote	The fertilized egg (about 2 weeks)	
Embryo	Developing human organism (2 weeks-about second month)	
Fetus	Developing human organism (9weeks after conception to birth)	
Teratogens	Harmful substances that can harm the embryo or fetus during prenatal development.	Chemicals, viruses, etc.
Habituation	Decreasing responsiveness with repeated stimulation	Infants look away sooner as they become more familiar with it
Schema	A concept or framework that organizes and interprets information	
Object Permanence	The awareness that things continue to exist even when not perceived	Infants younger than 6
Sensorimotor Stage	Piaget's theory that during stage infants know the world mostly in terms of their sensory impressions and motor activities	From birth to about 2 years old
Preoperational Stage	Piaget's theory that during this stage, children learn to use language but do not comprehend the mental operations of concrete logic.	From 2 to about 6 or 7 years old
Egocentrism	In Piaget's theory, the preoperational child's difficulty taking another's point of view.	
Theory of Mind	People's ideas about their own and others' mental states`	Feelings, perceptions, and thoughts
Concrete Operational Stage	In Piaget's theory, the stage of cognitive development where children begin to think logically about concrete events	From 6 or 7 to 11 years old
Formal Operational Stage	In Piaget's theory, the stage of cognitive development where children begin to think logically about abstract objects	Normally beginning at age 12
Critical Period	Short time after birth where exposure to certain stimuli and experiences produce proper development.	In ducklings seeing the first moving object is there mother normally, from then on they follow her only
Imprinting	Process where certain animals form attachments during a critical period very early in life.	
Self-Concept	Our understanding and evaluation of who we are	

Name of Important Person	What this person is known for	Impact on Psychology
Jean Piaget	Cognitive Development	We learned the basic stages and what happens in each of them.
Mary Ainsworth	Attachment Differences	We can tell for the most part the mother and father care by the children's reactions.