**Psychology Key Term List 6 Child Development**

Copy these terms on index cards to use as flash cards.

1. **Jean Piaget**-developmental psychologists who introduced a stage theory of cognitive development.
2. **Sensorimotor stage**-from about birth to 2 years old; infants know the world mostly by the info. they get from their senses and movements.
3. **Object permanence**-the awareness that things continue to exist even when you cannot see or hear them.
4. **Preoperational stage**-from about 2-7 yrs old; a child can speak, but cannot understand the mental operations of concrete logic.
5. **Conservation**-the principle that properties such as mass, volume, and number remain the same despite changes in an object’s form (part of concrete operational reasoning)
6. **Egocentrism**-the inability of the preoperational child to take another’s point of view.
7. **Concrete operational stage**-7-11 yrs old; children gain the mental skills that let them think logically about concrete events.
8. **Formal operational stage**-beginning at 12 yrs old; when people begin to think logically about abstract concepts and form strategies.
9. **Stranger anxiety**-the fear of strangers that infants start to display at about 9 mos. old.
10. **Attachment**-an emotional tie with another person; young children demonstrate attachment by seeking closeness to the caregiver and showing distress on separation.
11. **Critical period**-a crucial time for something to happen; if it doesn’t happen then, improper development results.
12. **Imprinting**-the process by which certain animals form attachments during a critical period very early in life.
13. **Authoritarian parenting-**style of parenting marked by imposing rules and expecting obedience.
14. **Permissive parenting**-style of parenting marked by submitting to children’s desires, making few demands, and using little punishment.
15. **Authoritative parenting-**style of parenting marked by making demands on the child, being responsive, setting and enforcing rules, and discussing the reasons behind the rules.