

PIAGET'S STAGES OF COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT

4

FORMAL OPERATIONAL (12 years-adult)

The adolescent can reason abstractly and think in hypothetical terms.

3

CONCRETE OPERATIONAL (7-12 years)

The child can think logically about concrete objects and can thus add and subtract. The child also understands conservation.

2

PREOPERATIONAL (2-6 years)

The child uses symbols (words and images) to represent objects but does not reason logically. The child also has the ability to pretend. During this stage, the child is egocentric.

1

SENSORIMOTOR (0-2 years)

The infant explores the world through direct sensory and motor contact. Object permanence and separation anxiety develop during this stage.

