

STAGES OF GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

Life begins at the moment of Conception. An individual passes with various stages of growth and development from birth to death. There are certain common developmental characteristics belonging to each stage. Age span for the human developmental stages can be divided into following manner in our Country —

Stage	Age
1. Pre-natal	Conception to birth
2. Infancy	Birth - 5 years
3. Childhood	5 - 12 years
4. Adolescence	12 - 18 years
5. Youth	18 - 25 years
6. Adulthood	25 - 55 years
7. Old Age	55 years to Death.

Stages of development according to Havloak

Stage	Age
1. Prenatal	Before Birth
2. Early infancy	Birth - 14 Months
3. Later infancy	14 Months - 2 years
4. Childhood	2 - 11 years
5. Early Adolescence	11 - 13 years
6. Adolescence	13 - 17 years
7. Later Adolescence	17 - 21 years

Stages of development according to Ross

Stage	Age
1. Infancy	1 - 3 years
2. Early childhood	3 - 6 years
3. Later childhood	6 - 12 years
4. Adolescence	12 - 18 years

According to Kolersnic -

<u>Stage</u>	<u>Age</u>
1. Prenatal	Conception to birth
2. Neonatal	Birth - 3 or 4 weeks
3. Early infancy	1 - 15 Months
4. Later infancy	15 - 30 Months
5. Early childhood	2½ - 5 years
6. Mid childhood	5 - 9 years
7. Later childhood	9 - 12 years
8. Adolescence	12 - 21 years

According to Arnest Jones -

1. Infancy	Birth - 5 years
2. Childhood	5 - 12 years
3. Adolescence	12 - 18 years
4. Adulthood	After 18 years

During all these developmental stages human beings exhibit typical behavioural characteristics in all dimensions of behaviour and personality make-up which are specific to each stage. For the point of view of teachers and education infancy, childhood and adolescence are very important stages. Teachers can create learning opportunities on the basis of the pattern of growth and development exhibited by the children of said stages.