

# Preface

The title *A Child's World* reflects our vision of the study of child development as an exciting journey of exploration into the special world of childhood and our desire to make that world come alive. By studying this book, students will gain a perspective, not only on what earlier explorers have discovered about children's development, but also on how the world looks from a child's viewpoint.

## Our Aims for This Edition

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Although the design, content, and features of *A Child's World* have changed dramatically since the first edition, a consistent goal has been to emphasize the continuity of development and its contrasts across cultures; to highlight interrelationships among the physical, cognitive, and psychosocial domains; and to integrate theoretical, research-related, and practical concerns. In this twelfth edition our primary aim is to build on these foundations by revising and adding much new material while keeping the overall size manageable. We have cut redundancies and streamlined features to make navigation through the chapters easier for students.

### Cutting-Edge Research

We have sifted through the plethora of literature published each year to select cutting-edge theory and research that will add significantly to students' understanding.

We have broadened the research base of each chapter and have updated throughout, using the most current statistics available. We have striven to make our coverage as concise and readable as possible while still doing justice to the vast scope and significance of current theoretical and research work.

### Cultural Influences

This edition continues our stress on cultural and historical influences on development. Reviewers have praised our emphasis on culture as a particular strength of this book. Cross-cultural research is fully integrated throughout the text as well as highlighted in Around the World boxes, reflecting the diversity of the population in the United States and in other societies.

## The Twelfth Edition at a Glance

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### Organization

This book takes a *chronological* approach, describing all aspects of development at each period of childhood. With this approach students gain a sense of the multifaceted sweep of child development. The 17 chapters fall into six parts:

- Part 1 summarizes the history, basic concepts, theories, and research tools of the field of child development.

- Part 2 describes the beginnings of life, including the influences of heredity and environment, pregnancy and prenatal development, birth, and the newborn baby.
- Parts 3 through 6 are divided into three chapters each, covering physical, cognitive, and psychosocial development during infancy and toddlerhood, early childhood, middle childhood, and adolescence.

## Pedagogical Features

We are gratified by the overwhelmingly favorable response to the pedagogy we have developed for *A Child's World*, which includes the following features:

- Our comprehensive Learning System, a unique, coordinated set of elements that work together to foster active learning. The names of the pedagogical features (Guideposts, Checkpoints), and critical thinking questions (What's Your View?) are designed to reinforce our central theme of exploration and discovery of a child's world.
- *Guideposts for Study* This list of questions at the beginning of each chapter highlights the key concepts to learn. Each Guidepost appears again to introduce the related text section.
- *Checkpoints* These questions placed in the margins throughout each chapter serve to help students assess how well they grasp the concepts in the preceding text sections.
- *What's Your View?* These critical thinking questions, placed in the margins throughout each chapter and in the boxed features, encourage students to examine their thoughts about the information presented in the text.
- *Summary and Key Terms* Concluding each chapter, these resources, organized under the Guideposts, help students review the chapter and check their learning.

Each part of the book begins with a distinctive, illustrated two-page spread containing the following features:

- Part Preview, which outlines the highlights of each chapter
- Part Overview, which introduces important themes of the chapter
- Linkups to Look For (in Parts 2–6), which provides examples of interaction among the physical, cognitive, and psychosocial domains of development

A new feature, Did You Know . . . ?, introduces each chapter by highlighting interesting and enlightening findings mentioned in the chapter. A Landmark Table in the endpapers helps students find the whole child at each period of development as well as trace various domains of development across childhood and adolescence.

Three types of boxes enhance our text by highlighting topics related to the main text.

- *The Research World* boxes provide an in-depth examination of research topics briefly mentioned in the text. For example, you will find a new Research World box on Family Mealtimes and Child Well-Being (Chapter 14).
- *The Everyday World* boxes deal with a variety of practical applications of research. This edition offers new Everyday World boxes on Food Security (Chapter 9) and Multitasking and Gen M (Chapter 16).

- *Around the World* boxes explore the way an issue in the chapter is treated or experienced in one or more foreign cultures, or in a United States minority group. New *Around the World* boxes are included on Children of Immigrant Families (Chapter 1) and Inventing Sign Language (Chapter 7).

## Content Changes

Following is a chapter-by-chapter list of the most important new and heavily revised material in our twelfth edition:

### Chapter One

- Included a new box on immigrant families.
- Added new examples of childhood as a social construction.
- Updated statistics on poverty and ethnicity.

### Chapter Two

- Streamlined chapter and generally refined chapter overall.
- Added new Piagetian examples of assimilation and accommodation.
- Created a new table comparing qualitative and quantitative research.

### Chapter Three

- Updated information on ART, epigenesis, Down syndrome, and schizophrenia.
- Updated box on multiple births and genetic testing.
- Replaced tongue-curling with dimples as example of dominant inheritance.

### Chapter Four

- Included new information on maternal factors and prenatal development, especially as it pertains to obesity.
- Updated the discussion of maternal age and the statistics related to prenatal care.

### Chapter Five

- Material on childbirth settings, doulas, and C-sections updated as well as information on VBACs, Apgar, and low birth weight.
- Updated statistics on prematurity and stillbirths as well as the information on becoming parents.

### Chapter Six

- Updated statistics on growth pattern, infant mortality, and vaccinations.
- Revised discussion of breast-feeding and added a new table on breast-feeding benefits.
- Sections on child maltreatment and autism updated.

### Chapter Seven

- Included current information on language of infants.
- Created a new box on inventing sign language.

### Chapter Eight

- Added new material on infant smiling, mirror neurons, and neural base of attachment.
- Updated information on altruism/altruistic behavior and self-regulation.
- Developed new section on shared intentionality/collaborative activity.
- Updated discussion of disorganized attachment pattern and maternal employment/child care.

### Chapter Nine

- Included a new box on food security.
- Included new information on handedness and food allergies.

- Updated discussions of homelessness, and child survival.
- Added current information on enuresis and its treatment.
- Updated children's health insurance information.

### *Chapter Ten*

- Significantly revised early education material; expanded coverage of Montessori and included coverage of Reggio Emilia. Added a new section on the schools of the 21st century and universal preschool.
- Updated information on theory of mind, late-talking toddlers,

### *Chapter Eleven*

- Revised and reorganized chapter to delete any redundancies between this and Chapter 14 on middle childhood.
- Updated information on gender differences and children's books and their influence on gender stereotypes.
- Added information on neighborhood effects on parenting.
- Updated material on prosocial behavior and peer relations in childhood.

### *Chapter Twelve*

- Added new section on mental health.
- Added detailed information on diabetes.
- Updated information on body image and weight management as well as tooth development and decay,

### *Chapter Thirteen*

- Updated information on working memory, academic achievement, Internet access in public schools, homeschooling, and ADHD.

### *Chapter Fourteen*

- Included a new box on family mealtime.
- Updated information on living arrangements of children as well as material on adoptees and self-esteem, divorce, childhood aggression, and bullying.
- Included new material on media violence.

### *Chapter Fifteen*

- Added information about stress and its impact on brain development.
- Added information about influences on puberty timing.
- Updated material on depression and substance abuse. Included most current statistics on adolescent suicide.

### *Chapter Sixteen*

- Included a new box on multitasking and Generation M.
- Expanded material on academic achievement to include influence of family experiences. Added information on the importance of tying education to future goals.
- Updated material on adolescent participation in organized activities.
- Included current material on girls' achievement in math.

### *Chapter Seventeen*

- Expanded material on teen dating and violence.
- Included new information on Internet use and online communication as well as electronic bullying.
- Updated information regarding education programs and their influence on teen pregnancies and STDs/STIs.
- Expanded information on emerging adulthood.

## Supplementary Materials

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*A Child's World*, Twelfth Edition, is accompanied by a complete learning and teaching package keyed into the Learning System. Each component of this package has been thoroughly revised and expanded to include important new course material. Please contact your McGraw-Hill representative for more information.

### For the Instructor

The instructor side of the Online Learning Center, located at [www.mhhe.com/papaliaacw12e](http://www.mhhe.com/papaliaacw12e), contains the Instructor's Manual, test bank files, PowerPoint slides, and other valuable material to help you design and enhance your course. Ask your local McGraw-Hill representative for your password.

### For the Student

#### Online Learning Center

[www.mhhe.com/papaliaacw12e](http://www.mhhe.com/papaliaacw12e) The twelfth edition Online Learning Center provides students with access to a variety of learning tools, including a chapter outline, Key Terms glossary, multiple-choice quizzes, guideposts for study, and decision-making scenarios.

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As always, we welcome and appreciate comments from readers, which help us continue to improve *A Child's World*.

*Diane E. Papalia*  
*Ruth Duskin Feldman*