



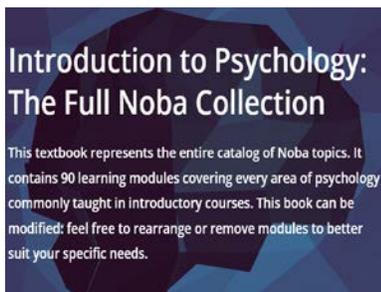
Faculty Review of Open eTextbooks

The [California Open Educational Resources Council](http://www.cool4ed.org) has designed and implemented a faculty review process of the free and open etextbooks showcased within the California Open Online Library for Education (www.cool4ed.org). Faculty from the California Community Colleges, the California State University, and the University of California were invited to review the selected free and open etextbooks using a rubric. Faculty received a stipend for their efforts and funding was provided by the State of California, the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

Chapter Name:

Cognitive Development in Childhood

(A chapter in *Introduction to Psychology: The Full Noba Collection*)



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Find it: [eTextbook Website](#)

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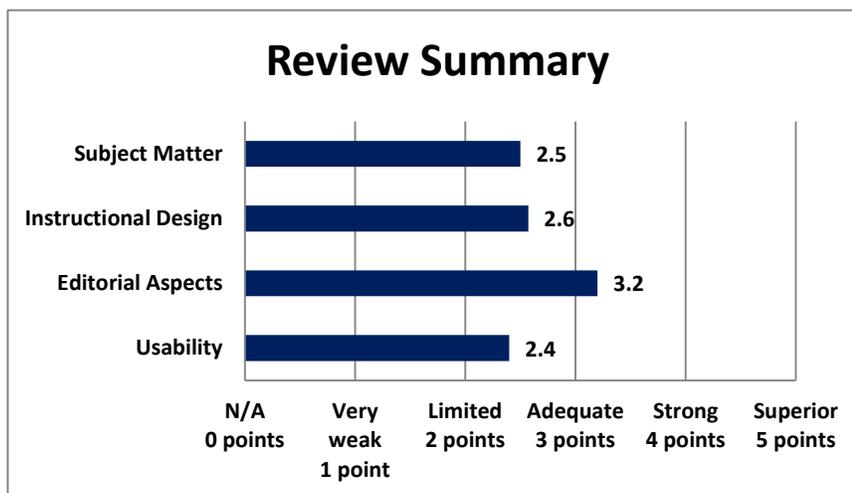
Format Reviewed:

[Online](#)

A fee may be associated with various formats.

Date Reviewed:

October, 2014



California OER Council eTextbook Evaluation

CA Course ID: [CDEV 100](#)

Subject Matter (30 possible points)	N/A (0 pts)	Very Weak (1pt)	Limited (2 pts)	Adequate (3pts)	Strong (4 pts)	Superior (5 pts)
Is the content accurate, error-free, and unbiased?					X	
Does the text adequately cover the designated course with a sufficient degree of depth and scope?		X				
Does the textbook use sufficient and relevant examples to present its subject matter?				X		

Does the textbook use a clear, consistent terminology to present its subject matter?			X			
Does the textbook reflect current knowledge of the subject matter?			X			
Does the textbook present its subject matter in a culturally sensitive manner? (e.g. Is the textbook free of offensive and insensitive examples? Does it include examples that are inclusive of a variety of races, ethnicities, and backgrounds?)				X		

Total Points: 15 out of 30

Please provide comments on any aspect of the subject matter of this textbook:

- The author does a great job introducing concepts and following up with detailed examples, sometimes thoroughly breaking down research studies. Breaking down research studies in this clear and concise way can be very helpful at the undergraduate level.
- With that said, does the textbook use sufficient and relevant examples to present its subject matter? The author provides great examples in this chapter with the subject matter that is presented, but much more subject matter needs to be included to be sufficient for a child development course.
- Some terms are described and explained but not actually stated. For example, active and evocative correlations and centration are discussed but are not defined as such.
- Overall, there is not enough detail. Particularly lacking is a more detailed description of Vygotsky's sociocultural theory, information processing theory, and intelligence.
- Test banks typically are included with introductory child development textbooks. This is only one chapter and I did not find any additional materials.
- It does include images. Illustrations are helpful and the corresponding descriptions are thorough.

Instructional Design (35 possible points)	N/A (0 pts)	Very Weak (1pt)	Limited (2 pts)	Adequate (3pts)	Strong (4 pts)	Superior (5 pts)
Does the textbook present its subject materials at appropriate reading levels for undergrad use?					X	
Does the textbook reflect a consideration of different learning styles? (e.g. visual, textual?)				X		
Does the textbook present explicit learning outcomes aligned with the course and curriculum?			X			
Is a coherent organization of the textbook evident to the reader/student?				X		
Does the textbook reflect best practices in the instruction of the designated course?				X		
Does the textbook contain sufficient effective ancillary materials? (e.g. test banks, individual and/or group activities or exercises, pedagogical apparatus, etc.)	X					
Is the textbook searchable?				X		

Total Points: 18 out of 35

Please provide comments on any aspect of the instructional design of this textbook:

- The questions above refer to textbooks, this is just a single chapter on cognitive development in childhood.

Editorial Aspects (25 possible points)	N/A (0 pts)	Very Weak (1pt)	Limited (2 pts)	Adequate (3pts)	Strong (4 pts)	Superior (5 pts)
Is the language of the textbook free of grammatical, spelling, usage, and typographical errors?					X	
Is the textbook written in a clear, engaging style?					X	
Does the textbook adhere to effective principles of design? (e.g. are pages laid out and organized to be clear and visually engaging and effective? Are colors, font, and typography consistent and unified?)					X	
Does the textbook include conventional editorial features? (e.g. a table of contents, glossary, citations and further references)					X	
How effective are multimedia elements of the textbook? (e.g. graphics, animations, audio)	X					

Total Points: 16 out of 25

Please provide comments on any editorial aspect of this textbook.

- No comment.

Usability (25 possible points)	N/A (0 pts)	Very Weak (1pt)	Limited (2 pts)	Adequate (3pts)	Strong (4 pts)	Superior (5 pts)
Is the textbook compatible with standard and commonly available hardware/software in college/university campus student computer labs?				X		
Is the textbook accessible in a variety of different electronic formats? (e.g .txt, .pdf, .epub, etc.)				X		
Can the textbook be printed easily?				X		
Does the user interface implicitly inform the reader how to interact with and navigate the textbook?				X		
How easily can the textbook be annotated by students and instructors?	X					

Total Points: 12 out of 25

Please provide comments on any aspect of access concerning this textbook.

- I used the pdf version of the textbook. I am not sure how one would annotate the epub.

Overall Ratings	Not at all (0 pts)	Very Weak (1 pt)	Limited (2 pts)	Adequate (3 pts)	Strong (4 pts)	Superior (5 pts)
What is your overall impression of the textbook?			X			
How willing would you be to adopt this book?	Not at all (0 pts)	Strong reservations (1 pt)	Limited willingness (2 pts)	Willing (3 pts)	Strongly willing (4 pts)	Enthusiastically willing (5 pts)
		X				

Total Points: 3 out of 10

Overall Comments

If you were to recommend this textbook to colleagues, what merits of the textbook would you highlight?

- It is clearly written and the research studies included are broken down in an understandable way. The author provides a brief overview of cognitive development and the chapter is a good way to introduce students to what they will be learning in the class but would not serve as a stand alone text.

What areas of this textbook require improvement in order for it to be used in your courses?

- More key information needs to be included and it would be particularly helpful if the information was further separated by developmental period.

We invite you to add your feedback on the textbook or the review to [the textbook site in MERLOT](#).
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