

16 - Preoperational stage (FAT PILES)

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“ 11 years Formal operational Here manipulation of ideas and propositions are seen – 1st order operations; soon, reasoning solely based on verbal argument construction develops – 2nd order operations. Hypotheticodeductive reasoning develops in a proportion of children after age 12.

Sensorimotor stage: (SPIRO) □ Symbolic thought: Language starts developing and thought starts to dominate actions. □ Representational Play: Mimics one object with another e.g. cup for a hat. □ Deferred Imitation: remembers an act and replays it later. □ Recognition of self: Primitive self recognition begins. □ Object permanence: Understanding that object that disappears from field of perception has not ceased to exist; if searched well this object can be found or it will reappear. Hence peek-a-boo games are understood and enjoyed. Initially this is limited as the hidden objects are searched at where they were last seen (around 9 to 12 months); not at where they were hidden. Around 18 months invisible displacements are inferred and object permanence is completed. Preoperational stage: (FAT PILES) □ Functional attribution: Objects are referred to by their function rather than appearance. □ Artificialism: ‘Sky is blue because someone painted it’ o & Animism: Inanimate objects are treated as living objects. □ Transductive reasoning: Cats have 4 legs, Dogs have 4 legs. So cats and dogs are the same (called Von Domarus law). o & Telegraphic speech: No functional propositions noted but verbs and nouns are used □ Phenomenalistic causality: In a similar logic to transductive reasoning, causality is inferred if two events occur with some temporal association e.g. lightning and rain come together; hence lightning brings rain. □ Imminent justice: See moral development □ Lack of seriation, conservation, and reversibility: o Seriation is the ability to sort or categorise based on dimensional variations of items. In centration only single dimension can be focussed at one time (akin to syncretic thought, see below). Conservation refers to the ability to perceive that a quantity (such as count, weight, volume etc) is unchanged if the same amount of a material is

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