

Classroom Insights From Educational Psychology

A Developmental Approach to Educating Young Children



Denise H. Daniels • Patricia K. Clarkson

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CORWIN

Please enjoy this complimentary excerpt from *A Developmental Approach to Educating Young Children*.

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A.2 CHILDREN'S APPROACHES TO LEARNING IN THE CLASSROOM

(From Table 2.1)

Think of a child in a classroom, and check each of the behaviors that describe this child. Next add descriptors of your own.

To what extent does this child reflect positive or negative approaches toward learning? What might enhance the child's positive approaches?

Orientation/Attitudes Toward School

- Laughs or smiles easily
 - Approaches the teacher comfortably
 - Approaches new activities with enthusiasm
 - Is curious and eager to learn
 - Is optimistic and recovers from setbacks quickly (sees the glass "half full")
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On-Task Involvement/Engagement in Class Activities

- Listens carefully to teacher's instructions
 - Responds promptly to teacher's requests
 - Uses classroom materials responsibly
 - Shows interest in activities
 - Returns to selected activities after interruptions
 - Sticks to task at hand, even during longer or unpleasant tasks
 - Participates in group activities
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Other Work Habits

- Seeks challenges
 - Persists in the face of difficulties
 - Asks for help when needed
 - Follows classroom procedures
 - Works well independently
 - Makes plans to reach goals
 - Anticipates consequences of behaviors
 - Works toward goals
 - Uses time wisely
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Social Behavior (Regulation)

- Waits turn to talk in class when appropriate
 - Does not disrupt others
 - Does not get into fights
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