

Jean Piaget

Piaget's four stages of development play a critical role in elementary schools because students are still developing. Piaget's stages of development are age – specific which will enable you to determine what kind of action of courses you will take during your professional career as a teacher. The following are Piaget's stages:

1. *Sensorimotor* (birth to 2 years)
2. *Preoperational* (2 to 7 years)
3. *Concrete Operational* (7 to 11 years)
4. *Formal Operational* (12 and up)

Piaget's Four Stages of Cognitive Development

<i>Stage</i>	<i>Age</i>	<i>Milestone</i>
<i>Sensorimotor</i>	<i>Birth to 2 years old</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>The child does not use symbols.</i>• <i>The child understands the world by the things he sees, explores, or understands.</i>
<i>Preoperational</i>	<i>2 to 7 years old</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>The child learns to memorize.</i>• <i>The child is very egocentric (it's all about him).</i>• <i>He has developed his own system of symbols and uses.</i>
<i>Concrete Operational</i>	<i>7 to 11 years old</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>The child uses more logical reasoning.</i>• <i>The child is less egocentric.</i>• <i>The child is more aware of the world outside of him.</i>• <i>The child starts learning by the process of assimilation and accommodation.</i>
<i>Formal Operational</i>	<i>11 years old and up</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>The child starts understanding more abstract problems.</i>• <i>The child starts building more knowledge upon previous experiences.</i>• <i>The child is more curious and motivated to learn.</i>

By learning Piaget's stages of cognitive development, you can have a better understanding of your students. When you are planning activities for your students, it is important that you take into account these stages of cognitive development. If you are aware of these stages, you will be able to develop more appropriate lessons for your children. Always keep in mind your students' age, personal experiences, and parents' educational level because they do play a significant role in your students' behaviors.