

**UNIT TITLE:** Understanding the Cognitive Development of Children

**LEVEL:** Two  
**CREDIT VALUE:** 3  
**NOCN UNIT CODE:** PT2/2/QQ/009  
**ACCREDITED UNIT NO:** A/103/0186

This unit has 4 learning outcomes.

| LEARNING OUTCOMES  | ASSESSMENT CRITERIA   |
|--|---|
| <b>The learner will:</b>   | <b>The learner can:</b>   |
| 1. Understand the nature / nurture debate with regard to intelligence. (C16) <sup>1</sup>    | 1.1. Describe the difference between nature and nurture.<br>1.2. Describe evidence for and against nature / nurture debate with regard to intelligence.                                   |
| 2. Understand theories of cognitive development. (C16)                                       | 2.1. Outline a theory of cognitive development.<br>2.2. Outline a theory of play.<br>2.3. Outline evidence for and against chosen theory.   |
| 3. Understand how language develops and of the major theories of language development. (C11) | 3.1. Describe stages of language development, for example, one word two word and telegraphic.<br>3.2. Outline the major theories of language development, for example, Skinner / Chomsky. |
| 4. Understand experimental methods and be able to use the appropriate terminology. (C16)     | 4.1. Plan an experiment.<br>4.2. Present experiment using appropriate terminology.  |

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<sup>1</sup> Early Years Care and Education and Playwork National Occupational Standards

Please note: Achievement of this unit does not provide evidence against the Care Standards Act requirements

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### ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

**Guidance:**

This grid gives details of the assessment activities to be used with the unit attached. Please refer to the NOCN Centre Handbook for definitions of each activity and the expectations for assessment practice and evidence for moderation.

**The assessment activities for this unit are indicated in the table below:**

**Key:** **P = Prescribed** – this assessment method *must* be used to assess the unit.  
**O = Optional** – this assessment method *could* be used to assess the unit.

|                                     |   |                         |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|-------------------------|---|
| Case study                          |   | Project                 | O |
| Written question & answer/test/exam | O | Role play/simulation    |   |
| Essay                               | O | Practical demonstration |   |
| Report                              |   | Group discussion        |   |
| Oral question and answer            | O | Performance/exhibition  |   |
| Written description                 | P | Production of artefact  |   |
| Reflective log / diary              |   | Practice file           |   |

### Signposting Key Skills

This unit offers clear opportunities for learners to provide evidence of achievement in Key Skills achievement in the following skill area/s:

| Key Skill              |   | Wider Key Skill                        |  |
|------------------------|---|--|--|
| Communication          | ✓ | Working with others                    |  |
| Information Technology |   | Problem solving                        |  |
| Application of Number  |   | Improving Own Learning and Performance |  |