Questions for Thought and Discussion

- How can caretakers bond with infants?
- Why do babies prefer direct eye contact?
- Why is joint attention such an important driver of development?
- How do children form “internal working models” of their value as people?
- What does the ability to imitate teach the infant?
- How do children learn socio-moral behaviour?
- Why do family learning environments play a critical role in development?
- Describe some “constraints on learning”. How do they inform the nature-nurture debate?
- Why are conversations with infants and young children crucial for their learning?
- Why are crawling and walking so important for cognitive development?
- Do infants and toddlers remember events?
- Why is language a “symbolic system” and how does this feature of language impact cognitive development?
- What is a “hostile attribution bias” and why does it matter?
- Why is it cognitively useful to have siblings?
- How does play help children to self-regulate their desires and emotions?
- Is favouring the “in-group” innate or learned?
- How does the “autobiographical self” develop?
- Why is it important to discuss the psychological causes of children’s disputes?
- Do genes completely determine developmental outcomes?
- Which linguistic skills are precursors for reading?
- Why does counting matter for mathematical development?
- Is logical reasoning by children comparable to adult reasoning?
- What are “executive function” skills and why are they important?

Other Books by the Author

Further Reading