

Child Development
The Biological Perspective
Chapters 4 and 5

Mercer County Community College

Features of Human Growth

- Growth is not steady
- Muscle, Fat, and Bones
 - Bones begin as cartilage
 - Epiphyses
- What is average?
 - Secular growth trends
 - The difference between “average” and “normal”

Physical Growth

- Mechanisms of Physical Growth
 - sleep
 - nutrition
- Adolescent Growth Spurt and Puberty
 - primary and secondary sex characteristics
 - menarche / spermatarche
- Malnutrition
- Eating Disorders
 - anorexia nervosa and bulimia nervosa
- Obesity
- Disease

How is the brain organized?

- Neuron
- Dendrite
- Axon
- Myelin
- Terminal buttons
- Neurotransmitters
- Synapse

The Brain

- Synaptic pruning
- Plasticity
- Experience-expectant growth
- Experience-dependent growth

Perceptual and Motor Development

- Smell, Taste, and Touch
- Hearing
 - Auditory threshold
- Seeing
 - Visual acuity
- Sensory Information

Perception and Attention

- Perceiving Objects
 - The visual cliff
- Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)
 - Hyperactivity
 - Inattention
 - Impulsivity

Motor Development

- Locomotion
- Fine-Motor Skills
- Physical Fitness

Questions

Exam #1 on 2/24/10