

Psychology of Learning in Children Aged 2–5 Years

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Abstract: This article analyzes the psychological development of children aged 2–5 years, including language formation, the importance of communication with parents, and early language acquisition. It highlights how limited communication affects speech development, how children absorb the language they hear most frequently, and why this period represents the most active stage of brain development.

Keywords: Early Childhood, Language Acquisition, Cognitive Development, Parent-Child, Interaction

Introduction

1. The age between 2 and 5 years is one of the most critical periods in a child’s development. During this time, speech, thinking, memory, and social skills rapidly evolve. Psychologists refer to this stage as a “critical developmental period,” as neural connections in the brain are formed at an accelerated rate.

Age (years)	Language Development	Cognitive Development	Parent Interaction Importance
2	Uses simple words and repeats sounds	Recognizes objects and people	Very high
3	Forms short sentences	Imitation and memory growth	Very high
4	Uses complex sentences	Problem-solving begins	High
5	Basic fluent speech	Logical thinking develops	High

Limited communication negatively affects a child’s speech development. Through interaction, children learn new words, pronunciation, and ways to express ideas. When communication is insufficient: vocabulary remains limited

sentence formation becomes difficult

social interaction skills weaken

Therefore, parents and caregivers should talk frequently with children, ask questions, and encourage responses.

3. At ages 2–5, children learn the language they hear most frequently. The brain is highly adaptable to phonetic sounds during this period. As a result:

children raised in bilingual environments learn both languages easily

the mother tongue plays a dominant role

speech development occurs primarily through listening

Scientific studies show that the most active stage of brain development occurs during early childhood.

At this time:

neural connections strengthen

learning ability is at its peak

emotional attachment develops

Close interaction with parents enhances psychological stability and self-confidence.

4. Play is the most natural form of learning for children. Through play, a child:

develops imagination

solves problems

learns social roles

5. At ages 2–5, children learn to understand and manage emotions. Love, attention, and support contribute to healthy psychological development.

Conclusion

The ages of 2–5 represent a crucial stage in the development of speech, thinking, and personality. Lack of communication slows language development, while close parent-child interaction strengthens brain development. Children quickly absorb the language they hear most often, making the family environment essential.

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