Topics in PsycINFO of Relevance to Child Development

PsycINFO is a research database published by the American Psychological Association. Teachers, school counselors, and pediatricians can use it to find recent research into parenting styles, behavioral issues, learning disorders and more.

Sample Searches in Child Development

Scenario: A school counselor wants to learn more about approaches to curb bullying that can be implemented by the school.

Search: School Based Intervention AND (Bullying OR Cyberbullying)

Results: A variety of articles exploring anti-bullying programs in grade schools, as well as studies exploring the factors that impact school climate and student behavior.

Scenario: A pediatrician is interested to see what sort of research has been done on how teenagers react to the behavior of their parents.

Search: (Parental Expectations OR Parenting Style) AND Adolescent Attitudes

Results: Studies looking at the ways in which parental behavior influences teenagers, covering topics including anxiety levels, drug and alcohol use, decision making behavior, and more.

Scenario: A clinical psychology student would like to explore the literature on using play therapy with children on the autism spectrum.

Search: Play Therapy AND Autism Spectrum Disorders

Results: Articles on using a variety of techniques and equipment in play therapy for children with autism, including sand play, drama therapy, and more.
Selected Search Terms

The search terms provided here are just a few excerpts from the many relevant terms in PsycINFO's thesaurus. If you aren’t sure how to use these terms (called Subject Terms, Subject Headings, or Index Terms depending on your interface), check with your librarian or consult the PsycINFO Quick Reference Guide you may also have received at the same time as this handout.

### Developmental Stages
- Adolescent Development
- Early Childhood Development
- Developmental Disabilities
- Motor Development
- Psychomotor Development

### Education
- Boarding Schools
- Elementary School Teachers
- Learning Disorders
- Nontraditional Education
- Reading Disabilities
- School Attendance

### School Counseling
- Educational Therapy
- School Based Intervention
- School Counselors
- School Expulsion
- Student Personnel Services

### Child Welfare
- Child Abuse Reporting
- Child Neglect
- Child Self Care
- Emotional Abuse
- Failure to Thrive
- Foster Care
- Juvenile Justice
- Protective Services
- Social Services

### Clinical Applications
- Adolescent Psychotherapy
- Attachment Disorders
- Child Guidance Clinics
- Child Psychiatry
- Child Psychotherapy
- Childhood Psychosis
- Childhood Neurosis
- Childhood Schizophrenia
- Play Therapy

### Parenting
- Adolescent Fathers
- Adolescent Mothers
- Adoptive Parents
- Adult Offspring
- Authoritarian Parenting
- Family Preservation
- Parent Child Relations
- Parent Training
- Parental Expectations
- Parental Role
- Parenting Style
- Mother Child Relations

### Adolescents
- Adolescent Attitudes
- Adolescent Psychiatry
- Adolescent Psychopathology
- Adolescent Psychotherapy
- College Students