

To the teacher: The following activity is an excellent way for students to practice remembering various developmental stages, but it does require some cutting/preparation time. As a small variation or addition to the assignment below, students could glue all of the stages to one timeline of the full lifespan. As a more elaborate variation, you could ask small groups of your students to create their own developmental stage theory as an introduction to the unit before they study any theories. Request that they include anything they know about changes in the lifespan, including the physical, social, emotional, psychological, and cognitive domains. Ask students to write these on a poster. When reviewing at the end of the unit, they could then paste the stages below in the appropriate locations on their own stage models, comparing and contrasting their initial impressions with the research.

Developmental Stages Envelope Activity

Within this envelope, you will find small slips of paper that outline the following categories: the titles for Piaget's stages of development, a description of Piaget's stages of development, the titles for Erikson's stages of development, a description of Erikson's stages of development, the titles for Kohlberg's stages of development, a description of Kohlberg's stages of development, the titles for Kubler-Ross's stages of development, and a description of Kubler-Ross's stages of development. *In small groups, complete the following steps to practice your memory of these developmental stages.*

1. Sort the slips into the above stated categories. Note that these titles also appear as **boldface** items in your envelope that you may lay across your desk to help you categorize and sort.
2. Arrange the stage names (NOT descriptions) in order under the correct theorist.
3. Use your book or notes to check your progress so far. Fix any mistakes. Then close your book and notes.
4. Arrange the stage descriptions in order to correlate with your titles. To help visually, place the Erikson description next to the Erikson stages, the Piaget description next to the Piaget stages, etc.
5. Use your book or notes to check your progress.
6. If time allows and you feel as if you need more help, scramble your slips and try again.
7. When you are finished, please make sure you have all 56 slips of paper, and return them to your envelope.
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Piaget— Stages	Piaget— Description	Erikson— Stages	Erikson— Description	Kohlberg— Stages	Kohlberg— Description	Kubler- Ross— Stages	Kubler- Ross— Description
Sensorimotor	Egocentric thinking; object permanence and representational thought develop	Trust vs. mistrust	Either learn the world is hostile or is friendly	Pre-conventional level 1	Punishment and obedience guide reasoning	Denial	They are wrong; I don't believe. This is not true
Preoperations	Language develops; magical play is important	Autonomy vs. doubt	Either learn independence or insecurity of ability	Pre-conventional level 2	Follow rules when to personal benefit	Anger	I am so upset, I could strangle someone
Concrete operations	Conservation tasks take place; practice logical but not abstract reasoning	Initiative vs. guilt	Either learn productivity and purpose or guilt	Conventional level 1	Conform to rules because it is the right thing to do	Bargaining	If I'm saved, I'll donate to...
Formal operations	Abstract and hypothetical thought develop	Industry vs. inferiority	Either learn competence or low self-worth	Conventional level 2	Conform to rules to maintain the social order	Depression	I'm so upset, I cannot get out of bed and I cannot eat
Postformal or dialectical thinking	Neo-Piagetian: understanding of conflicting views and opportunities	Identity vs. role confusion	Try to learn a unified sense of self and not be diffused	Post-conventional level 1	What decision ensures everyone's rights?	Acceptance	It is true and it is real. I can deal with it.
XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	Intimacy vs. isolation	Try to learn how to love unselfishly	Post-conventional level 2	Universal principles of justice guide decisions	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	Generativity vs. stagnation	Be productive and help the next generation	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	Integrity vs. despair	Look back at life and come to terms with decisions	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX