

**Big Picture:** Understanding how children grow and develop and some of the factors that affect growth and development is very important when working with young children. Although children develop skills and abilities at different rates, they usually follow the same pattern.

**Internally Assessed Assignment**

1. Describe each of the three factors giving detailed examples of each.
2. Link this to EACH of the THREE case studies provided.
3. Choose two physical factors (one must be prenatal), two environmental factors and two socio-economic factors
4. Explain how each of the 6 factors impact EACH of the THREE case studies provided.
5. Compare the similarities and differences of the impact on each case study.
6. Assess the positive and negative effect this has on each case study.

**Case study 1**

Josh is 12 months old and lives with his mum in a fourth floor flat on a large housing estate. His mum tries to take him to the park but this can be difficult as they need to get a bus there, this means that he spends a large part of each day in the flat as there is no outside space for mum to take him to play. His mum does not work, she is trying to find a part-time job. During the pregnancy Josh’s mum and dad were recreational drug users. His mum stopped using drugs when she was 8 weeks pregnant. Josh’s dad continued to use drugs, which led to the relationship breaking up. Josh now sees his dad every few weeks on a Saturday but cries when he leaves his mum.

**Case study 2**

Krupa is 2 and a half years old and lives with her mum and dad. Krupa’s mother was ill throughout her pregnancy and Krupa was born 7 weeks early. Krupa has just started walking and is behind with many of her developmental milestones, she is a fussy eater and her diet is limited mainly to milk and cheese sandwiches. Krupa’s dad lives with them but has a stressful job and is often late home, this can cause arguments between Krupa’s mum and dad as mum thinks he should help more around the house. Krupa often ignores dad when he is in the house.

**Case study 3**

Polly is 5 years old has Down’s syndrome, she is behind with some of her developmental milestones but started reception class last year, with her friends from nursery. Polly lives with her mum and dad and they have just moved in with her nana and grandad, as dad was recently made redundant and they could no longer afford to pay their rent. Polly has found this move difficult as she no longer has a bedroom of her own and cannot invite her new friends around to play. Polly is enjoying school but does not play outside with the other children as she has some mobility difficulties, meaning she can’t run around the playground or take part in PE

**Component 1B- Children's growth and development. Factors that affect development.**

**2. Key Concepts**

**3. Processes**

**Physical factors**

Physical factors are **influences which determine the health** of an individual. This can have a direct impact on an individuals development and growth. These would have an effect on the physiology of the body and the way in which the body functions. Physical factors include:

- Prenatal
- Health status
- Diet / Exercise

Effects on development  
Maternal substance abuse, prenatal birth and mothers mental health can all have an impact on a child’s development.  
**Exposure**  
Exposure to alcohol, smoking and drugs can affect development.  
Exposure can cause long or short term effects.

**Environmental factors**

Environmental factors are **external influences** in the individual’s surrounding area which have a direct impact on their growth and development. Environmental factors include:

- Housing
- Home environment
- Exposure to drugs, alcohol and smoking

The 4 types of abuse this may be consist of:  
**Physical abuse** - deliberately causing harm which results in injuries; such as bruises, broken bones and cuts.  
**Emotional abuse** - deliberately lowering self-esteem or confidence with the use of words or actions.  
**Sexual abuse** - being forced or coerced into, or exposed to, sexual activity,  
**Neglect** - failure to meet basic needs.

**Socio-economic factors**

Socio-economic factors are influences which are linked to **society and economics (money)**. This would have an impact on growth and development because it links to what the family can afford to buy, what are acceptable norms in the society they live in and role models they can learn from.

- Socio-economic issues include:
- Experiences of discrimination
- Income and poverty
- Poor relationships