DESCRIPTION OF THE FIELD

The study of Developmental Psychology is important for understanding how individuals learn, mature, and adapt at all ages. Developmental Psychologists study how people grow, develop, and adapt at different life stages. They study changes in human development across the lifespan, including physical, cognitive, social, intellectual, perceptual, personality, and emotional growth. Developmental Psychologists conduct research designed to help people reach their full potential. Developmental Psychologists work in a variety of settings, including academia, government agencies, health care facilities, and schools. A PhD is typically required for a career in this field.

(Provided by the American Psychological Association)

CAREERS

- Developmental Psychologists working in Colleges and Universities focus primarily on research or teaching
- Clinical Psychologist or Developmental Psychologist in health care facilities, mental health clinics, assisted living, or working with rehabilitation patients focusing on assessment, evaluation, and treatment
- Social Policy Research
- An alternative is to get a Master’s degree in a counseling field to become a Licensed Professional Counselor
- Bachelor’s level- Gerontology Aide, Child Life Specialist, careers in Non-Profit Organizations

RESOURCES

For more information, please visit the following websites:

American Psychological Association, Division 7
http://www.apa.org/about/division/div7.aspx
http://www.apa.org/action/science/developmental/

Society for Research in Child Development
http://www.srcd.org/

The RAND Corporation
http://www.rand.org/

American Psychological Association
Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities/Autism Spectrum Disorder, Div. 33
http://www.division33.org/