



# DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY WITH DR DOMINIC MCSHERRY

## TALKING POINTS

### KNOWLEDGE

1. Where and when were the first theories of developmental psychology written?
2. Currently, how old are the participants in the Care Pathways and Outcomes Study?

### COMPREHENSION

3. Can you explain the difference between adoptive parents and foster parents?
4. What is unique about the Care Pathways and Outcomes Study?
5. Why are studies into care pathways necessary?

### APPLICATION

6. What would be a problem with creating a completely new questionnaire for a psychology study?
7. How did the Care Pathways and Outcomes study findings challenge the idea that 'adoption is the gold standard'?

### SYNTHESIS

8. Why do you think kinship foster care is sometimes preferred over foster care with strangers?
9. Why do you think the length of time in a placement is so important for children in care?

### EVALUATION

10. Psychologist John Bowlby initially referred to attachment theory as the 'maternal deprivation hypothesis'. What does this tell you about his cultural perspective? How do you think we should approach teaching about theories like this?

## ACTIVITIES YOU CAN DO AT HOME OR IN THE CLASSROOM

1. Look up what different types of care exist for young people in your region, and find out how many people are in each type. Design an informative poster that illustrates how each type of care works.
2. Watch this TEDEd video by paediatrician Nadine Burke Harris, who explains how abuse and neglect affects the development of the brain: [ed.ted.com/lessons/eczPoVp6](https://ed.ted.com/lessons/eczPoVp6)

Now go through the three stages of the TEDEd lesson: Think, Dig Deeper, Discuss

## MORE RESOURCES

- Read more about the Care Pathways and Outcomes project: [www.ulster.ac.uk/research/topic/psychology/projects/the-care-pathways-and-outcomes-study](http://www.ulster.ac.uk/research/topic/psychology/projects/the-care-pathways-and-outcomes-study)
- Follow Dom on Twitter to get a feel for developmental psychology: <https://twitter.com/dommcsherry1?lang=en>
- Very Well Mind gives a great overview of developmental psychology, including theories and when to seek treatment: [www.verywellmind.com/developmental-psychology-4157180](http://www.verywellmind.com/developmental-psychology-4157180)
- The American Psychological Association has created a six-unit lesson plan called Life Span Development for secondary school psychology teachers, which you can access here: [www.apa.org/ed/precollege/topss/lessons/life-development.pdf](http://www.apa.org/ed/precollege/topss/lessons/life-development.pdf)

## HEAD TO DOM'S FUTURUM WEBPAGE FOR AN ANIMATION ABOUT HIS RESEARCH:

[www.futurumcareers.com/how-can-we-ensure-that-children-in-our-care-system-get-the-best-possible-start-to-life](http://www.futurumcareers.com/how-can-we-ensure-that-children-in-our-care-system-get-the-best-possible-start-to-life)