For your Observation Research Paper you will be making general observations of the physical, cognitive and socioemotional areas in family, school or educational settings. The paper should be at least two pages, double spaced in 10-12 point font.

1. Choose two ages to observe: Infant, Child, Middle Child, Adolescent, Emerging Adult, Adult, and Late Adult from your textbook to observe.

2. Observe and make notes on both Age #1 and Age #2 looking for examples of:
   For Physical for each age the Characteristics of height, weight, and physical abilities,
   For Psychosocial one of Erikson’s stages for each age, and
   For Cognitive one of Piaget’s stages for each age.
   Use your textbook for descriptions and definitions and the information below.

3. Submit your paper reporting your observations on the Physical, Cognitive and Socioemotional areas based on theories and facts from your textbook relevant to the ages you are studying. Discuss examples and highlights of your observations. You need to gain permission to observe your subjects. Please use only numbers or fake names to code your Observations - no names or identifying information.

4. Compare the differences between the two Age Groups on topics you observed from either Piaget or Erikson.

5. What were your expectations of how the behaviors would occur? Were you expectations correct? Why or Why not?

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Erikson’s Psychosocial Theory

**Trust versus Mistrust**
Infants learn trust when they are cared for in a consistent, warm manner. Mistrust may develop if the infant is not fed and kept warm consistently.

**Autonomy versus Shame and Doubt**
Autonomy - Infants become more independent and feel pride in their new accomplishments. Shame and doubt can occur from parental overprotection and/or criticism.

**Industry versus Inferiority**
Industry- Master new skills, Take pride in what they do. Inferiority - may feel incompetent and inferior when things do not work.

**Initiative versus Guilt**
Initiative – become responsible, take action. Guilt – feelings may happen if irresponsible; made to feel anxious.

**Identity versus Role Confusion**
Identity - defining sense of self. Isolation - confusion in one’s awareness of one’s strengths and weaknesses, etc.

**Intimacy versus Isolation**
Intimacy is finding oneself while losing oneself in another person. Isolation - Failure to achieve intimacy results in social isolation.

**Generativity versus Stagnation**
Generativity - Adults’ desire to leave legacies of themselves to the next generation- Biological, Parental, Work, Cultural.
Stagnation - Develops when individuals sense that they have done nothing for the next generation

**Integrity versus Despair**

Integrity - life well spent and feelings of satisfaction.
Despair – may feel doubt, regret for life experience

**Piaget’s Cognitive Theory**

**Sensorimotor**
- Babies use innate reflexes such as sucking reflex
- repeat interesting actions.
- Explore new possibilities and multiple actions with objects; use trial and error

**Preoperational**
- Have object permanence, Egocentric inability to take other’s Perspective, Animism – Objects seen as alive
- Achieve conservation – aware that altering object’s appearance does not change its properties – able to reverse

**Concrete Operational**
- Reason logically about concrete events, things; can classify objects into sets

**Formal Operational**
- Can perform Abstract Concepts of Truth, Honor & Personality and Deductive reasoning; develop hypotheses