

Due Date: _____

Read the article “Toy Stories: The psychology of toys” posted on E-Campus. Pick a toy or hobby that relates to some particular age group (i.e. a mobile for an infant or golf in the elderly). *You will need to get approval from the instructor for your choice of toy/hobby prior to writing this paper.*

Using what you have learned in the class, you will need to complete a paper that answers the following questions:

1. Describe the developmental benefits of your toy or hobby. *Be specific.*
2. What are the physical, cognitive or perceptual challenges that face the age group that you are relating the toy/hobby to?
3. How does your toy/hobby help this group meet those challenges?
4. How does it fail?
5. What improvements could be made to your toy/hobby to help it meet those needs?

Be sure to cite specific references in APA format from both your book/class notes and the article posted. (An APA style guide has been posted on E-Campus). You may use additional primary (Journal Articles) or secondary (Textbooks) sources, but I will not count any tertiary sources (Websites / Wikipedia / Blogs) as contributing information to this assignment.

Papers must be submitted with the following criteria or they will not be graded:

- 1” margins on all sides
- 12 point Times New Roman, Ariel or Helvetica Font
- Cover page including your name and toy or hobby chosen

Your paper must be 4 to 6 typed double-spaced pages (not including the title page or any references). To be precise, this means that you must have between 4 2/3 pages and 6 pages of text. Please do not turn in a paper shorter than 4 2/3 pages or longer than 6 pages.

The paper will be graded on the basis of several characteristics:

1. The extent to which your paper integrates material from the lecture and textbook and offers insight on the topic.
2. Your original thinking and creativity in analyzing the benefits / cons of the toy or hobby chosen in terms of how it helps or does not help certain aspects of development.
3. Writing style, including organization, sentence structure, clarity of expression and other stylistic issues.

The grading rubric for this assignment is attached so you can see exactly what I am looking for.

Name: _____

Total Points: _____

Score	Criteria	Achievement Level			
		Poor	Developing	Adequate	Excellent
	Description of Content 30 Percent	25% Little description of content and subject matter.	50% Description of subject material is poor, incomplete or disconnected.	75% Description of the subject is complete and relevant to class.	100% Complete description of subject with exceptional detail.
	Discussion of Course/Text material 30 Percent	25% Little/no connection to course material	50% Course material is discussed but discussion is incomplete and/or irrelevant	75% Makes multiple connections between course material and paper subject. Connections are clear and relevant.	100% Makes detailed connections between course material and paper content. Discussion of class material expands significantly the understanding of the paper subject.
	Critical Analysis 30 Percent	25% Little or no critical analysis of paper content. No connection between ideas presented within the paper.	50% Critical analysis of paper subject exists but is incomplete or incorrect. Little connection between ideas presented in the paper.	75% Paper contains several connections between ideas within the paper. There is clear critical analysis within the paper.	100% Paper contains evidence of several instances of critical thought and connections between ideas.
	Grammar/Mechanics/Citations 10 Percent	25% Poor use of grammar/citations/spelling. Evidence of plagiarism within the paper.	50% Paper has no evidence of plagiarism but more than 3 instances of poor grammar/spelling. Ideas are hard to follow within the paper.	75% Paper is well written but contains more than one issue of poor grammar/spelling. Citations are used but may not be used correctly.	100% Citations are included and correct. Paper is well written and easy to follow.