

Running Format: Case Study of Morgan

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in APA Style

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INTRODUCTION

Morgan is a 7 month female. She lives in a house in the country on a farm. She has two working, full-time students as parents living at home. There are also two grandparents, and one uncle at home. Her father is Brad who is 21 years old and is in production. Her mother is Lindsey who is a 20 year old and works as a server. Morgan has no siblings and no pets. Morgan likes her mother and shiny, colorful, noisy things. Morgan likes her toes in her mouth. Morgan does not like peas, or being away from her mother. This case study is for a child development course at Manchester College, where it will study the development of children.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Morgan is a 7 ½ month old female. She was born on July 24, 2006. Her mother, Lindsey, had a normal pregnancy with Morgan. Lindsey was given a scare with the thought of having gestational diabetes. Lindsey's blood sugar was too low so the doctors made sure that she kept the sugar level up. She carried Morgan almost too full term but missed by only a week. She had a normal birth also.

Morgan within her first month left the house when she was six days old to go to church. On August 12, Morgan had her first smile. Morgan's first out loud laugh was on August 20th. The second month her big milestone was that she could sleep through the night. This happened on August 30th. Lindsey was very happy that Morgan slept through the night so early. In the third month Morgan had her first shower on October 23rd. Within the first month Morgan was able to turn over from her back to her stomach. According to the University of Missouri (2005), this is actually early for a baby; they say it is somewhere around 4 months that a baby is able to turn over. She was also given her first bath in a tub. Morgan's fifth month was a really big physical growth time. She was able to hold a spoon in her hand. She was able to sit in a high

chair on December 13 and by December 20 she was sitting up alone and holding her own bottle. She still has trouble holding a big bottle up to get the milk out and seems to only get air and she gets frustrated. She also, in her fifth month, was able to “jump”. She bends her knees and straightens them without leaving the ground and holding onto someone. In her six month not much happened in her physical development. Her seventh month Morgan was pulling her self up on to things. This process proceeded into her eighth month where she had many physical changes. She was crawling on March 5th and the proceeding day she had her first tooth. On March 13th she was able to pull herself up to a standing position in her crib.

Morgan is going through a lot of physical growth right now. Lindsey’s pregnancy was normal and so was the birth of Morgan. Morgan’s body is going through the normal stages of growth. She is on the low end of the weight and height compared to other infants her age.

COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT

Morgan was born on July 24, 2006. She is now eight months old. Lindsey and Brad were interviewed and Morgan was observed to see what her cognitive and language development.

Morgan has been progressing normally through her cognitive and language development. Her speech and communication has grown through the last eight months. She is babbling sounds such as “mamamama” and “dadadadadad”. She has not made any words yet but she is right on track to make words soon. According to Robert Feldman (2007), the first sounds a child makes are mama, dada, or baba, but they use them for everything so they are not actual words yet. Her first sounds were crying and that was the way that she communicated. Morgan is responding to different sounds and voices. She knows her grandmother’s voice. When I went to observe one day Grandma was taking care of Morgan and when she left Morgan, she would cry until she heard her grandmother’s voice and then would calm down. Same goes for her mom and

dad. When Morgan heard Brad or Lindsey's voice she would calm down. She is also studying and inspecting things for a long period of time. Lindsey gave Morgan a pretzel and Morgan stared at it for a long time and then would move it from hand to hand then try to eat it. She was going through the stages of senses. She was curious about what this weird thing was in her hand and tries to find out in the only way that she could. Morgan is also responding to "no". Whenever Lindsey or Brad say "no" to Morgan multiple times and makes her stop doing what she is doing, Morgan will cry. She is already getting the concept that 'no' means to stop doing it. Morgan is also following things with her eyes. When a block was put in front of her and then moved from right to left or from up to down she would follow it for a while before her interest was averted away. She is also imitating others facial expressions. If you smile at her, she more then likely, will smile back and if you frown she will frown.

Morgan is developing cognitively and linguistically on schedule. She is a normal eight month old girl. She still has many things that she is learning. She thinks that if you she can't see you then you left her. It is also hard to see some of her development without asking her things.

EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Morgan is now nine months old girl. Morgan's prenatal emotional development went well. Lindsey and Brad talked to Morgan while she was in the womb. This helped Morgan because it gave an emotional connection to her mom and dad. She is developing on time with what the emotional development is supposed to be. Lindsey was interview on what she saw of her daughter's emotional development. I also observed Morgan's emotional development.

The basic emotions begin to show in infancy, such as happiness, sadness, fear, and anger ("Social and Emotional Development in Infancy and Toddlerhood", n.d.). Morgan has been smiling for a while now. She first started "smiling" for gas. Now she is smiling when she is

happy. When observing her she likes to be thrown up into the air and caught and swung around. You can tell that she enjoys this because of the smile that is plastered on her face the entire time. Morgan is also squealing with joy and pleasure. She was playing with a ball on one of the days that I observed and you could hear her squeals loudly and clearly. She was enjoying the ball so much that she could not just keep the joy inside. She does have a different cry for when she is hungry, in pain, cold, and wet. Morgan also has a cry for when she can't hear or see her mother. I knew when she wanted Lindsey by the cry that she had. I also heard her cry for when she was hungry. Morgan is also showing fear with her body. While watching "Happy Feet", there is a part in it where a sea lion comes out of the water to try and catch the penguin. Morgan visible jumped when the sea lion came out of the water. Her arms also flayed out from her body. Morgan also is showing her affection. When Lindsey was holding her she was close and had her head on her shoulder. She was smiling and cheerful. She also has shown anger quite a bit. When Lindsey took the remote away from Morgan, it was visible to see Morgan's hands clench up and her arms to go straight to her side and she screamed at the top of her lungs. She was so angry at Lindsey for taking the remote away from her. When Morgan is also told no is when she shows a lot of her anger.

Morgan is emotionally developing on schedule for her age. She is showing feelings. She is able to show her feelings and express what she wants through her crying and her emotions.

REFLECTION

I worked with a 6 month old, named Morgan, until she was 9 months old. I watched her at Lindsey and Brad's house in Huntington, Indiana and also on Manchester College campus. There were many things that I observed about Morgan through the three months that I watched her. She developed physically, emotional, and mentally through the three months.

Physically, Morgan went from just being able to sit up and stand if you hold her hands to crawling around and picking herself up on the furniture to stand. She also grew taller and gained weight. Morgan went from the baby cereal to the second stage of baby food. She is even now able to eat some hard foods if they are feed to her in small pieces.

Emotionally, Morgan has grown. Morgan has become more comfortable with me. She would not even play with me even with Lindsey right next to her. By the end of the observation she was able to play with me and she would come up to me without me first going to her. At the beginning of the observation Morgan did not really show much anger but in the more recent observations she is showing more anger. She gets angry when her mother tells her no and takes something that she wants away. Morgan also is showing more emotion in the aspect of love. She is cuddlier and hugs more then she did three months ago.

Morgan has also grown mentally in the last three months. Morgan at six months was just babbling nonsense words but now she is saying mama and dada knowing what it is she is saying. She also understands words more now then she did. When she hears no she knows that she is suppose to stop doing it. She also understands that when I show up mommy might not be there so she starts to cry.

Morgan has grown a lot over the last three months of my observation. I have gained a new understanding of how fast a child grows in such a short amount of time. I have come to understand that many of the important developments that will affect later life happen within the first year of life. I have seen these developments in Morgan. I have learned many new things and have also seen many of the previous thoughts that I have had in real life.

SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS



REFERENCES

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