

Running Head: CASE STUDY

Case Study of a 9 Month Old Male

in APA Style

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Introduction

Logan, a 9 month old Caucasian male, lives in a house, in rural Knox, Indiana. He lives with his two biological parents. His father, Ben, 29, works as a material manager and his mother Becky, 27, works in customer service. Logan has several interests which include toys that play music, Spiderman, and playing in his ball pit. Some of his dislikes include getting his diaper changed, taking a bath, and eating peas! Logan will be observed in order to be studied for development, for the purpose of a child development course.

Physical Development

According to an interview with the mother, she carried Logan for 39 weeks. The mother gained weight at a normal rate, as did the child. Neither the mother nor the child encountered any problems during the pregnancy (B. Taylor, personal communication, February 19, 2007).

At his current age of 9 months, Logan weighs 19.5 pounds and is 28.75 inches tall. He is in the 75th percentile in length and about average in weight for his age (National Center for Health Statistics 2001). He has blonde hair and blue eyes. He has four teeth in and two more are starting to show.

Logan has mastered rolling over, sitting up without support, crawling, and walking with support. He can take a small amount of steps on his own and then will fall to the floor and crawl. He looks around on his own and can control his own head movements. He will frequently turn his head toward a flashing light, a loud noise, or towards a toy that is playing music. He imitates adults' facial gestures, especially smiling. Logan laughs aloud as well. Logan can hold his own bottle, but prefers some else to hold it instead. He reaches for toys and books when he wants a person to interact with him. He sits still when a person is reading to him. He will often point to

the pictures in the book, too. He can grasp his own dry rice cereal with his thumb and finger, but he has not mastered this task completely because he frequently drops the cereal before he can make it to his mouth.

Cognitive Development

According to an interview with the mother, Logan often responded to her voice when he was still in the womb. He responded by increasing his movement (Taylor 2007). At his current age of 9 months, Logan still responds to different voices and sounds. He prefers a higher pitched voice over a lower tone. He responds to high-pitched voices by smiling and laughing.

Logan has mastered imitating others and following objects with his eyes. Logan will often study small picture books for long periods of time. He enjoys having people read the books aloud to him as he follows along. Logan notices when you hide objects from him, especially bottles. He becomes extremely curious and will not stop looking until he finds it.

Logan communicates quite frequently by babbling. He laughs and babbles when he is happy and cries when he is frustrated. He has not said his first word yet, but can comprehend the word “no”. He also communicates through gestures, too. An example of this is when he sees a his 20 year old cousin named Matt he communicates with him by throwing his arms up in the arm making the gesture for “touchdown”. He has also assimilated this gesture to think that every young male understands the “touchdown” gesture. He will repeatedly do the gesture and will become unhappy if the person does not respond the same way Matt does. He does not cognitively understand the difference between the different males.

Emotional/Social Development

According to an interview with the mother, Logan bonded during the prenatal stage with both his mother and father. He did this by kicking in his mother's womb when his mother or father would speak to him (Taylor 2007). At his current age of 9 months, Logan still has a great bond with each of his parents. He enjoys playing with his father. He bonds with his mother when she sings a certain song to him that she made up (Taylor 2007).

Logan has mastered smiling, vocalizing joy with laughter, imitating actions, and showing affection. These are all crucial pieces to proper development (Gober, 2002). Logan has also mastered recognizing the difference between his immediate family and strangers. According to an interview with his mother, Logan has "stranger danger" with males more than he does with females. If he has a choice between approaching a female and a male, he will almost always approach the female (Taylor 2007).

Logan has a laid back personality. His family's schedule does not allow him to be too picky. With both parents working outside of the home, a few of his relatives baby-sit him. He adjusts really well to having new people come into the home and watch him. It does not appear that he has any attachment issues at this time.

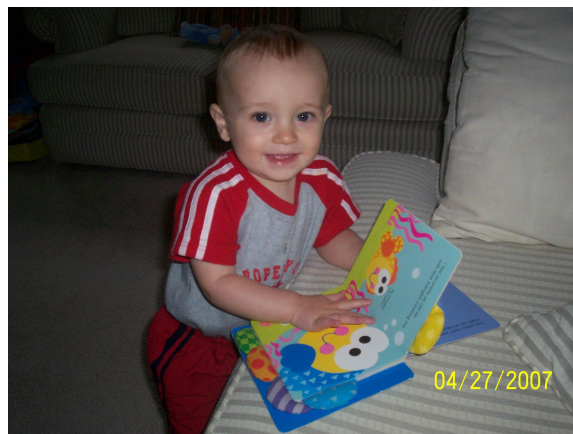
Reflection

After completing 20 hours observing Logan, an 11 month old boy, I realized that I really enjoyed getting to work with such a young child. I have never been around a child that young in my life! I learned a lot through activities and lectures from my Child Development course, but I actually got to see what I learned happen in real life during my hours of observation. I not only learned

about the development of a baby into a toddler, but I also learned a lot about myself in the process.

In Child Development we learned that some of the first words a child says are “mom”, “dad”, and “ball”. I personally witnessed this when I last observed Logan. Not only can he say the word “ball”, but he can also recognize a picture of a ball by pointing to it. I find it just amazing that 2 months ago, he was just simply crawling around the house and babbling. Now he can walk at a relatively fast pace and can actually say words! It’s remarkable! Some of the other words he can say are “mom” and “uh-oh”. I can’t imagine when he is going to start putting together short sentences!

By observing Logan I can also see what it is like for parents of young children or children in general. It is hard work! The parents get practically zero time to themselves. As a teacher, you only have the child for 7 hours during the day. A parent’s job is never-ending! By observing Logan for 20 hours, I can be a more empathic teacher.



This is Logan at his current age of 11 months. Although he cannot read yet, he loves being read to.



Many of Logan's teeth are coming in.



This is us reading one of his favorite books!

References:

Gober,S. (2002). Six simple ways to assess young children. Albany, NY: Delmar.\

National Center for Health Statistics (2001). *Birth to 36 Months Growth Chart*. Retrieved February 10, 2007 from <http://www.cdc.gov/growthcharts>.