

Two Developmental Research Designs

- Cross-sectional Designs

- Several diff. age groups are studied at one time point
- * Biggest changes are in this. It's the fact that the changes took place w/ age not each person.

- Longitudinal Designs

- one group of participants are studied over a long period of time
- * more powerful, but take longer & more difficult

Cross

Advantages:

- Cheaper
- quicker

Disadvantages:

- Less powerful
- cohort effects
- ↳ our generation

Long

Advantages:

- More powerful

Disadvantages:

- time & money
- Attrition
- ↳ ppl. drop out of study

Three Areas of Study in Development

Physical Development, Cognitive Development, Socioemotional Development

Prenatal Development: Development of infant beginning w/ conception & ending w/ birth.

3 stages: Germinal Period (First 2 weeks after conception)

Embryonic Period (next 6 weeks)

Fetal Period (6 weeks on... 7 months)

Germinal period: Massive cell division

Ends w/ implantation into uterine wall

Embryonic period: 3-6 weeks after conception

Massive cell differentiation

Nutrients through placenta

Fetal period: Months 2-9 after conception

Massive physical growth

Ends at 40 weeks w/ birth

Teratogens: any agent that can cause a birth defect.

Critical periods: time when developing organs are most susceptible to birth defects