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Using Developmental Frameworks to Implement Focus Groups in School-Aged Children

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Developmental Aspects Contribute to the Success of Focus Groups:

BACKGROUND

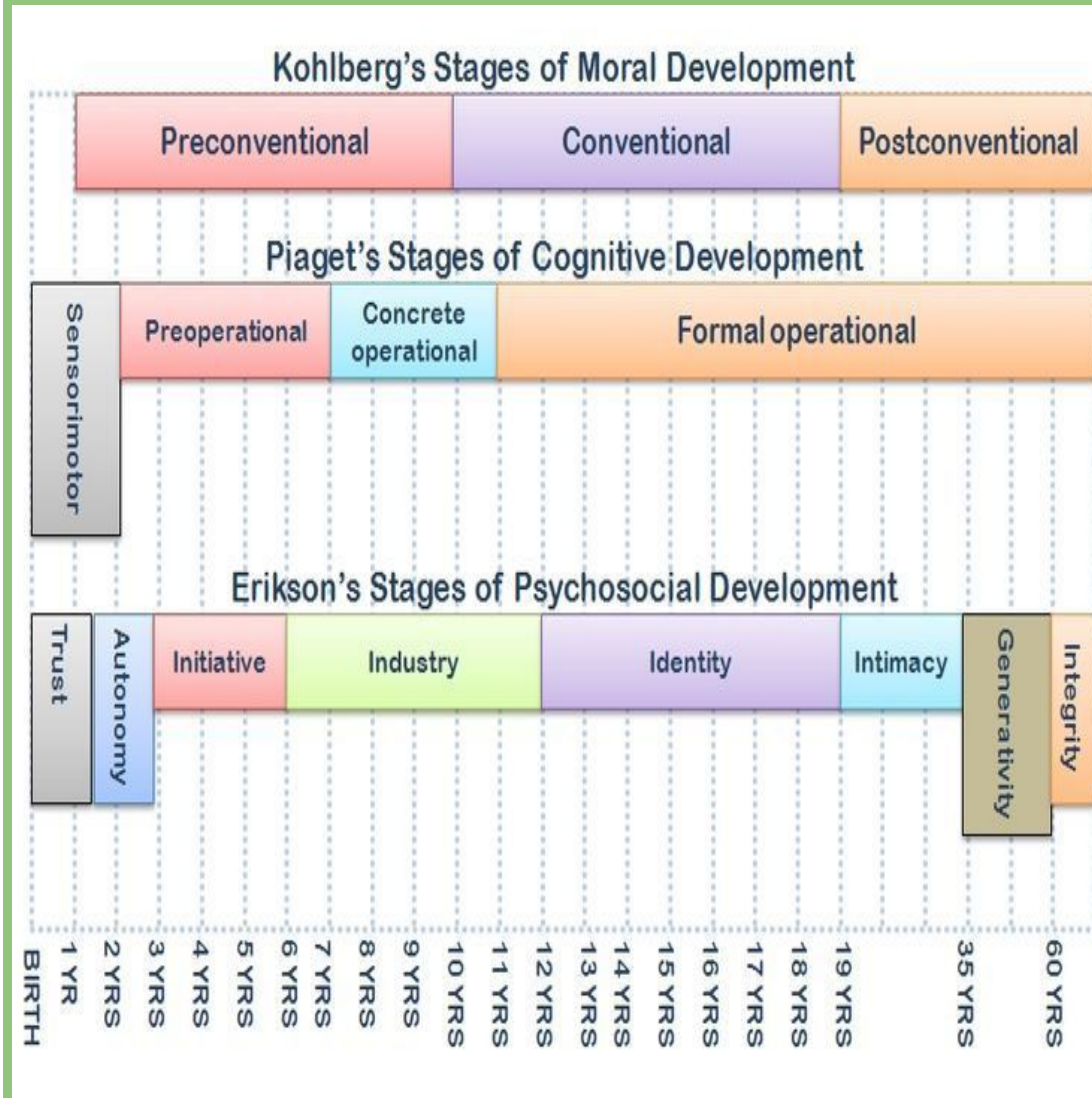
- Mental Health makes up a large portion of well-being and is often overlooked in pediatric populations.
- Adverse experiences in childhood can have lifelong effects on physical and mental health.
- The Pediatric Well Being Scale uses images as opposed to typical questionnaires and surveys.
- This eliminates the need for comprehension while addressing the various age groups developmental and cognitive levels.
- Focus groups are a reliable method for collecting data with pediatric populations as well.

METHODS

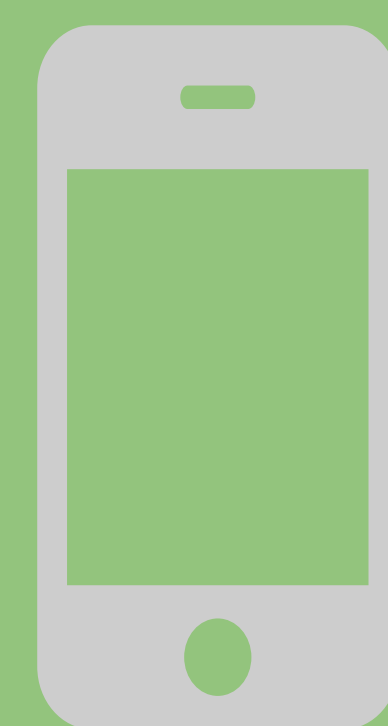
1. Conducted focus groups of local Binghamton elementary school students and allowed them to use well-being tool
2. Collected data from their responses in the focus groups and in the well-being tool
3. Transcribed data collected to reflect feelings and emotions elicited from pictures of the tool
4. Analyzed data for patterns and themes
5. Revised picture tool
6. Showed focus group participants

Using Developmental Frameworks to Implement Focus Groups In School-Age Children

Ashley Antony, Jonathan Chong, Erica Shum, Lauren Wong, Mitchell Zatz, Judith Quaranta



(<https://www.pinterest.ca/pin/328973947751139103/>)



Take a picture to download the full paper

- School age children are developmentally capable to provide insight into their needs and experiences.
- This population has the cognitive ability to actively participate in these focus groups.
- This age group has a good command of language and are beginning to use logic to solve problems.
- These children are able to view three pictures at once, understand all three pictures within the item on the scale are measuring the same feeling on a continuum, and to distinguish each level of feeling.

- School-aged children want to be recognized for their accomplishments, and start comparing themselves to their classmates. These needs motivate the participant to join the focus group, with the desire to be recognized.
- There is also decreased egocentrism with the child being more sociocentric, which contributes to the success of focus groups for this age group.

RESULTS

- Focus groups were proven to be successful in determining the effectiveness of the well-being tool amongst elementary school students
- The students are able to provide feedback on the pictures and make meaningful connections between their thoughts and feelings and the well-being tool.



REFERENCES

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