

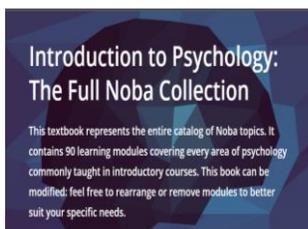


## Faculty Review of Open eTextbooks

The [California Open Educational Resources Council](http://www.cool4ed.org) has designed and implemented a faculty review process of the free and open etextbooks showcased within the California Open Online Library for Education ([www.cool4ed.org](http://www.cool4ed.org)). Faculty from the California Community Colleges, the California State University, and the University of California were invited to review the selected free and open etextbooks using a rubric. Faculty received a stipend for their efforts and funding was provided by the State of California, the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

Textbook Name:

### Cognitive Development in Childhood (A chapter in *Introduction to Psychology: The Full Noba Collection*)



License:



*Cognitive Development in Childhood* by Robert Siegler is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/4.0/)

Find it: [eTextbook Website](#)

Textbook Authors:

Robert Siegler, Ph.D.

Reviewed by:

Angela Lukowski

Institution:

University of California,  
Irvine

Title/Position:

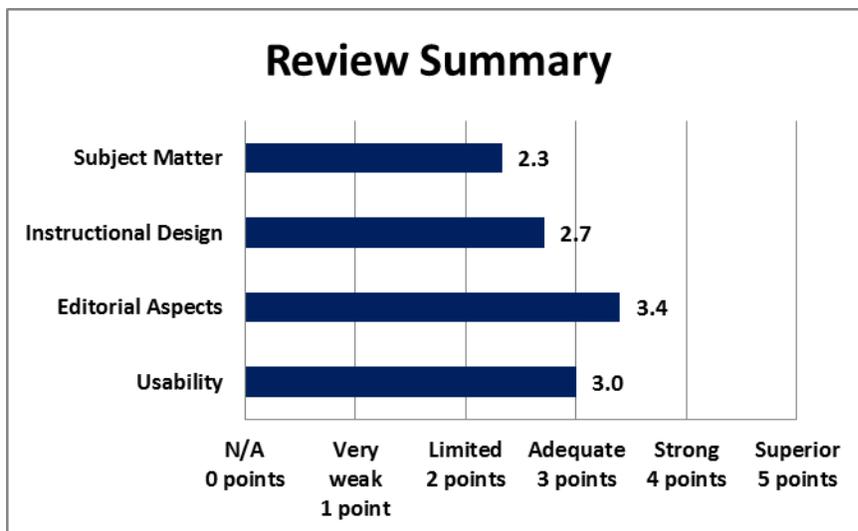
Professor

Format

Reviewed:

[Online](#)

A small fee may be associated with various formats.



Date Reviewed:

November 2015

### California OER Council eTextbook Evaluation Rubric

CA Course ID: [CDEV 100](#)

Subject Matter (30 possible points)	N/A (0 pts)	Very Weak (1pt)	Limited (2 pts)	Adequate (3pts)	Strong (4 pts)	Superior (5 pts)
Is the content accurate, error-free, and unbiased?					X	
Does the text adequately cover the designated course with a sufficient degree of depth and scope?		X				
Does the textbook use sufficient and relevant examples to present its subject matter?			X			
Does the textbook use a clear, consistent terminology to present its subject matter?				X		

Does the textbook reflect current knowledge of the subject matter?		X				
Does the textbook present its subject matter in a culturally sensitive manner? (e.g. Is the textbook free of offensive and insensitive examples? Does it include examples that are inclusive of a variety of races, ethnicities, and backgrounds?)				X		

Total Points: 14 out of 30

Please provide comments on any aspect of the subject matter of this textbook:

- The ratings provided throughout are based on my review of this material for use as a primary text in a Child Development course (not a course on Cognitive Development, for which this module might be better suited, or as a chapter in a course on Child Development). The text does not cover developmental concepts outside of cognitive development or provide relevant examples of other developmental phenomena that would be featured in an introductory Child Development course.
- The reviewed content is listed as a module on the NOBA website and is not a full-length textbook.
- The module includes descriptions of conducted research studies, allowing students to become familiar with empirical research and the conclusions that can be drawn from studies on cognitive development. Because the module is quite brief, limited attention is devoted to various aspects of cognitive development (whereas more attention would be provided to these issues in a full-length textbook). The module focuses on some of the most salient topics that would be covered in a course on Cognitive Development.

Instructional Design (35 possible points)	N/A (0 pts)	Very Weak (1pt)	Limited (2 pts)	Adequate (3pts)	Strong (4 pts)	Superior (5 pts)
Does the textbook present its subject materials at appropriate reading levels for undergrad use?				X		
Does the textbook reflect a consideration of different learning styles? (e.g. visual, textual?)			X			
Does the textbook present explicit learning outcomes aligned with the course and curriculum?				X		
Is a coherent organization of the textbook evident to the reader/student?				X		
Does the textbook reflect best practices in the instruction of the designated course?				X		
Does the textbook contain sufficient effective ancillary materials? (e.g. test banks, individual and/or group activities or exercises, pedagogical apparatus, etc.)			X			
Is the textbook searchable?				X		

Total Points: 19 out of 35

Please provide comments on any aspect of the instructional design of this textbook:

- The module is well organized and includes specific learning objectives. The module is searchable and includes figures that help illustrate developmental phenomena. In addition, readers can click on key terms in the text to see their definitions.
- The module includes additional references that could be accessed by interested students, discussion questions, and a list of relevant vocabulary words. Inclusion of a test bank of multiple choice questions would be helpful.

Editorial Aspects (25 possible points)	N/A (0 pts)	Very Weak (1pt)	Limited (2 pts)	Adequate (3pts)	Strong (4 pts)	Superior (5 pts)
Is the language of the textbook free of grammatical, spelling, usage, and typographical errors?				X		
Is the textbook written in a clear, engaging style?					X	
Does the textbook adhere to effective principles of design? (e.g. are pages laid out and organized to be clear and visually engaging and effective? Are colors, font, and typography consistent and unified?)					X	
Does the textbook include conventional editorial features? (e.g. a table of contents, glossary, citations and further references)					X	

How effective are multimedia elements of the textbook? (e.g. graphics, animations, audio)				X		
---	--	--	--	---	--	--

Total Points: 17 out of 25

Please provide comments on any editorial aspect of this textbook.

- Robert Siegler is an expert in cognitive development, and the module is written clearly and in an engaging style without any typographical errors.
- The module does not include any animations or audio recordings, although the included figures nicely supplement what is written in the text.

Usability (25 possible points)	N/A (0 pts)	Very Weak (1pt)	Limited (2 pts)	Adequate (3pts)	Strong (4 pts)	Superior (5 pts)
Is the textbook compatible with standard and commonly available hardware/software in college/university campus student computer labs?				X		
Is the textbook accessible in a variety of different electronic formats? (e.g. .txt, .pdf, .epub, etc.)				X		
Can the textbook be printed easily?				X		
Does the user interface implicitly inform the reader how to interact with and navigate the textbook?				X		
How easily can the textbook be annotated by students and instructors?				X		

Total Points: 15 out of 25

Please provide comments on any aspect of access concerning this textbook.

- The PDF version of the book could be easily edited (highlighting, annotation using text boxes) by students who have the appropriate software.

Overall Ratings						
	Not at all (0 pts)	Very Weak (1 pt)	Limited (2 pts)	Adequate (3 pts)	Strong (4 pts)	Superior (5 pts)
What is your overall impression of the textbook?		X				
	Not at all (0 pts)	Strong reservations (1 pt)	Limited willingness (2 pts)	Willing (3 pts)	Strongly willing (4 pts)	Enthusiastically willing (5 pts)
How willing would you be to adopt this book?	X					

Total Points: 1 out of 10

## Overall Comments

If you were to recommend this textbook to colleagues, what merits of the textbook would you highlight?

- The module provides a good overview of cognitive development in childhood and could be included in a Child Development course as a section on cognitive development.
- Of note, however, is that there are a number of NOBA modules available online relevant to a course on various topics in developmental psychology that could likely be pieced together for use in a Child Development course.

What areas of this textbook require improvement in order for it to be used in your courses?

- The module is brief and focuses exclusively on cognitive development; other aspects of developmental psychology would have to be included as well for this material to be used as a primary text in a Child Development course.

We invite you to add your feedback on the textbook or the review to [the textbook site in MERLOT](#) (Please [register](#) in MERLOT to post your feedback.)



For questions or more information, contact the [CA Open Educational Resources Council](#).



This [review](#) is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike 4.0 International License](#).