

The focus is on changes in the structure of thought processes which seem to occur at the age of 11 to 12 years. Much has been written about emotional adjustments necessary at this age, but cognitive changes have received far less attention. The authors argue that at this age a child becomes capable of certain *formal* or abstract operations of thought which before were possible only as *concrete* operations on properties of the immediately present object world. This provides the last of three mental revolutions during development: the first occurs at two years when sensorimotor schemata are supplemented by symbols for representing the environment; the second, at 7 to 8 years, when it becomes possible for the child to foresee the results of concrete operations. Thus the present book takes its place in the larger design of Piaget's description of mental development.

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New Books

Earth's Shifting Crust. A key to some basic problems of earth science. Charles H. Hapgood. Pantheon Books, New York, 1958. 438 pp. \$6.50.

A List of Zoological and Botanical Types Preserved in Collections in Southern and East Africa. vol. I, pt. 1, Zoology. South African Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, Pretoria, South Africa, 1958. 147 pp. Paper, 7s. 6d.

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A Short History of Anatomy from the Greeks to Harvey. Charles Singer. Dover, New York, 1957 (originally published as *The Evolution of Anatomy*, 1925). 221 pp. Paper, \$1.75.

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Miscellaneous Publications

(Inquiries concerning these publications should be addressed, not to Science, but to the publisher or agency sponsoring the publication.)

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