Do You Know Your Theories?

Theorists have had differing ideas about child growth and development.

Match the following theories to major beliefs.

**Major Theories:**

A. Maturational

B. Psychoanalytic

C. Psychosocial

D. Learning

E. Cognitive-Developmental

F. Sociocultural

G. Ecological Systems

**Statements of Major Beliefs**

\_\_\_\_\_ 1. Children learn to regulate their biological drives and desires and take on social norms for behavior.

\_\_\_\_\_ 2. Behaviors can be reinforced or extinguished.

\_\_\_\_\_ 3. Human behavior is determined by genetic inheritance and biological maturation.

\_\_\_\_\_ 4. Ages and stages describe children’s levels of understanding.

\_\_\_\_\_ 5. Children are influenced by the interactions of their biology, the environment, and sometimes their parents’ environments.

\_\_\_\_\_ 6. Development occurs due to conflicts between children’s needs and the social demands of adults.

\_\_\_\_\_ 7. Children learn through interactions with older children and adults within their culture. \_\_\_\_\_ 8. Mental health problems can be studied using this theory, which was the basis for Erik Erikson’s psychosocial theory.

\_\_\_\_\_ 9. Children and adults are influenced by their environment and, in turn, also influence their environment.

\_\_\_\_\_ 10. Dealing with stage-specific conflicts (crises) in healthy ways results in a healthy personality.

\_\_\_\_\_ 11. Differences among children in the timing of major skills (walking, reading) are mainly due to genetic differences.

\_\_\_\_\_ 12. Through quality experiences, children build their own knowledge.

\_\_\_\_\_ 13. Most learning comes through mentoring and tutoring.

\_\_\_\_\_ 14. Behavior modification techniques used to treat behavioral problems are based on this theory.

\_\_\_\_\_ 15. Parenting courses use this theory to explain social-emotional stages in children. \_\_\_\_\_ 16. As children construct their own knowledge, their minds adapt (change) to fit their new learning.

\_\_\_\_\_ 17. Parenting courses and social work use this theory to explain the many social contexts affecting children and those who work with them.