

Cambridge University Press

052166053X - Microdevelopment: Transition Processes in Development and Learning

Edited by Nira Granott and Jim Parziale

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Microdevelopment

Transition Processes in Development and Learning

Microdevelopment is the process of change in abilities, knowledge, and understanding during short time-spans. This book presents a new process-oriented view of development and learning based on recent innovations in psychology research. Instead of characterizing abilities at different ages, researchers investigate processes of development and learning that evolve through time, and explain what enables progress in them. Four themes are highlighted: variability, mechanisms that create transitions to higher levels of knowledge, interrelations between changes in the short time scale of microdevelopment and the life-long scale of macrodevelopment, and the crucial effect of context. Learning and development are analyzed in and out of school, in the individual's activities and through social interaction, in relation to simple and complex problems, and in everyday behavior and novel tasks. With contributions from the foremost researchers in the field, *Microdevelopment* will be essential reading for all interested in cognitive and developmental science.

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The aim of this series is to provide a scholarly forum for current theoretical and empirical issues in cognitive and perceptual development. As the new century begins, the field is no longer dominated by monolithic theories. Contemporary explanations build on the combined influences of biological, cultural, contextual and ecological factors in well-defined research domains. In the field of cognitive development, cultural and situational factors are widely recognized as influencing the emergence and forms of reasoning in children. In perceptual development, the field has moved beyond the opposition of “innate” and “acquired” to suggest a continuous role for perception in the acquisition of knowledge. These approaches and issues will all be reflected in the series which will also address such important research themes as the indissociable link between perception and action in the developing motor system, the relationship between perceptual and cognitive development to modern ideas on the development of the brain, the significance of developmental processes themselves, dynamic systems theory, and contemporary work in the psychodynamic tradition, especially as it relates to the foundations of self-knowledge.

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