

ST. JOSEPH

SCHOOL DISTRICT

Unit Duration	Course	AP Psychology	Unit Name	Developmental Psychology
9-10 Class Periods	Unit Description	Developmental psychology encompasses the study of the behavior of organisms from conception to death. In this unit, students will learn to examine the processes that contribute to behavioral change throughout a person's life. The major areas of emphasis in the course include prenatal development, motor development, socialization, cognitive development, adolescence, and adulthood. Developmental psychologists seek to understand how changes in our biology and social situations over a lifespan influence our behaviors and mental processes. Development can be studied from several different perspectives, including biological or cognitive perspectives. Developmental psychologists may focus on one or more developmental periods or the entire course of a lifespan, using cross-sectional and longitudinal research methods.	Unit Topic(s)	Topic I: Lifespan Development Topic II: Social and Cognitive Development in Childhood Topic III: Adolescent Development Topic IV: Adulthood and Aging Topic V: Moral Development Topic VI: Gender and Sexual Orientation
	Enduring Understanding/ Big Ideas		Unit Essential Question(s)	To what extent is early psychological development crucial to long-term mental health?
Priority Standards		See Individual Topic Pages		

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Unit Assessment(s)		Unit Learning Experiences	Application Project: From Birth to Death Development Story
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