

Shaping Youngest Minds Video Questions

Name _____ Date _____ Class _____

1. What new ideas about the brain did you learn from this video?
2. What can a parent do to stimulate brain pathways?
3. What does "prime times" and "critical periods" mean in relationship to the brain?
4. What does the video say about how learning to play a musical instrument affects the brain?
5. When is a child's brain most sensitive to malnutrition?
6. How is talking, reading, and singing to a child important to their developing brain?
7. Children need human interaction to attach meaning to words. How can a caregiver interact with children using words?
8. How do babies learn to calm themselves to regulate their emotions?
9. How would you feel if you were told "Shut up and take your nap.....You are nothing but a spoiled little brat!" List three feelings.
10. What can happen to children of depressed mothers?

Shaping Youngest Minds - answers to DVD questions

1. Varies

2. Simple things like holding, talking, playing, singing trigger the brain pathways for sight, language and socialization.

3. There are specific times when the brain is best at distinct kinds of learning

4. A 35 year old will have a tougher time learning a musical instrument than a child between the ages 5-12. Some researchers believe that children who learn how to play music may show improved spatial reasoning, which will help them understand math and scientific concepts.

5. From the third prenatal trimester through the second year after birth.

6. The emotional relationship between the primary caregiver forms in part through words. Early exposure to language affects intelligence and social competence.

7. Talk to them while doing everyday activities. Sing to them, tell stories and read books. Question and discuss with children what they read, see, and experience.

8. The experience of being comforted helps them learn to regulate their own emotions. Babies associate positive feelings like joy and comfort with the timely and sensitive ways a caregiver responds to them.

9. Varies

10. Over time the children of these mothers reflect their mothers' depression. They are less active, talk less, avoid eye contact, and are less playful. They seem to expect less of their relationships.. Between mothers and babies, depression can be "contagious."