

Lifespan Development: PSY 315
Adjunct Professor: Mary Dew
Toy Assessment Group Activity

Names:

Toy Story- How Physically and Cognitively Stimulating Are Children's Toys?

Toys are usually designed to stimulate infants and children physically and cognitively. I want you to think about what type of toys you might have in your office, hospital, classroom if you were trying to assess an infant's **physical and cognitive** development. This activity invites students to evaluate the toys of an infant. Students will then answer the questions about the toys in relation to physical and cognitive development (including perceptual development and language) and share it with the class.

Description of toy your group selected:

Examine the toy for some of the following characteristics. Be creative!

- 1) For what ages would you recommend for this toy?
- 2) Is the toy pitched to one particular gender? If so, which one?
- 3) What might parents/psychologists/nurses do with the toy when interacting with the child?
- 4) What do you think are the general developmental benefits of this toy?
- 5) How does this toy seem designed to stimulate specific physical abilities?
- 6) How does this toy seem designed to stimulate specific perceptual abilities or tactile sense?
- 7) Does this toy seem designed to stimulate specific development toward language? If so, how?
- 8) How durable does the toy appear to be? Is it washable?
- 9) Are there any other notable characteristics of this toy in terms of infant development?