

Attention and Intention

What is Joint Attention?

- It's the adult's and young person's coordinated attention to each other and to a third object or event
- Joint attention is recognized as one of the earliest forms of communication
- It's about communicating and learning new information through the acts of following the gaze and directing the gaze of others

Developing Joint Attention

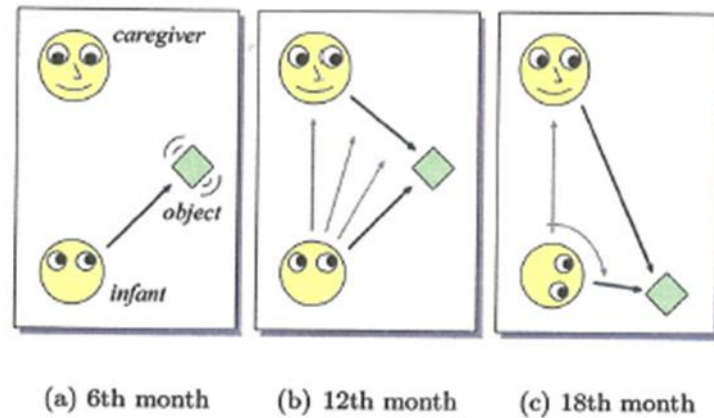


Figure 1: Development of infant's joint attention

Two Types of Joint Attention

1. The child's ability to initiate joint attention such as showing an object to others
2. The child's ability to respond to the attention bids of another person e.g. turning their head to look in the direction of where the other person is pointing / looking

Developing Intention

Pre-intentional → Intentional Behaviours

- I don't want that (refusing)
- I'm not going there (protesting)
- I'm taking that (requesting)
- Sort it!! (bid for help)

“What?”

Assessment &
Advice

Observations

Training

Therapy
Intervention

Programme
Development

Target Setting

Consultancy for
Service Providers

Communication Exchange

Speech &
Language Therapy and
Consultancy

“How?”

Flexible

Bespoke

Timely

Engaging

Empowering

Meaningful

Interactive

Straightforward



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