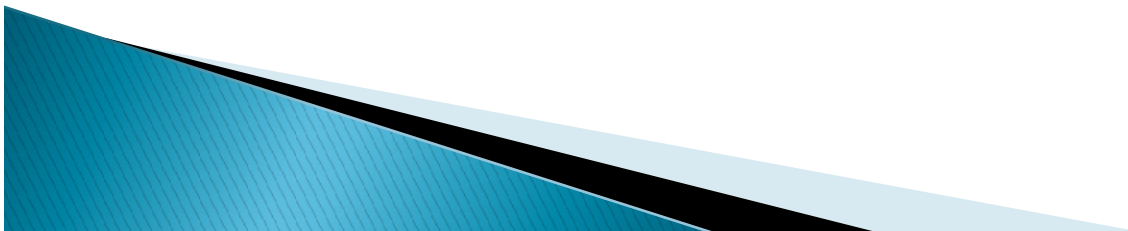


Unit 1
The Experience of Childhood

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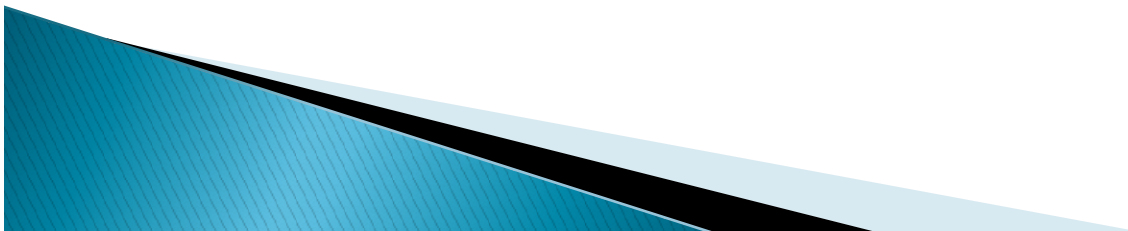
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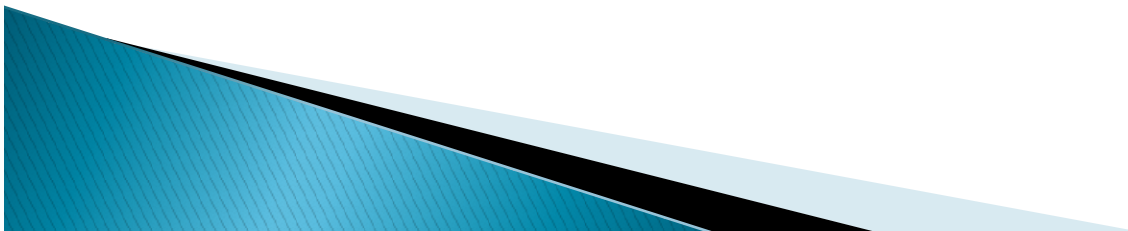
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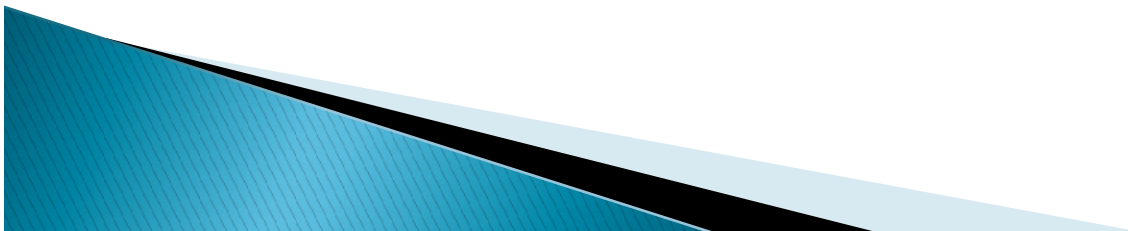
Objectives

- ▶ **Describe some experiences and characteristics common to children**
- ▶ **Discuss how different soio-cultural settings influence the experience of childhood**



Some Universals

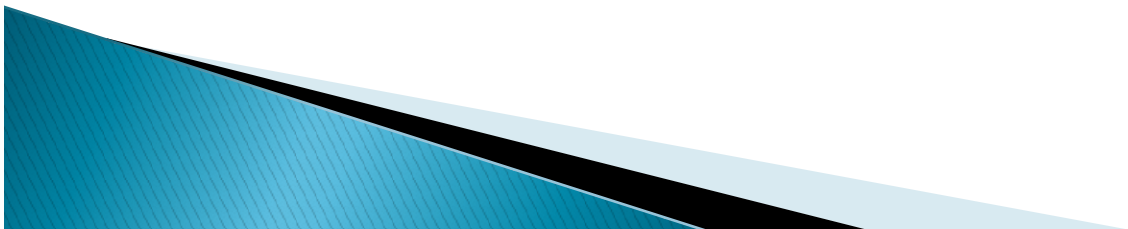
- ▶ **Playfulness, make believe**
- ▶ **Desire for independence along with security**
- ▶ **Have emotions and thoughts just as adults**
- ▶ **A valuable time for learning**
- ▶ **Exploration and questioning are ways of learning**
- ▶ **Fascinated by adult world - pretend like them**
- ▶ **Learn ways appropriate in their society and culture**



The Socio-Cultural Context of Childhood

The specific experiences of a child which shape her being are influenced by:

- ▶ **Gender**
- ▶ **Social Class: determined by education, occupation and family's income. Determines the opportunities and facilities available to the child.**
 - **Families of Lower class**
 - **Families of the Middle and High Social class**
 - **Child Labour**
- ▶ **Religion**
- ▶ **Family structure and interrelationships**



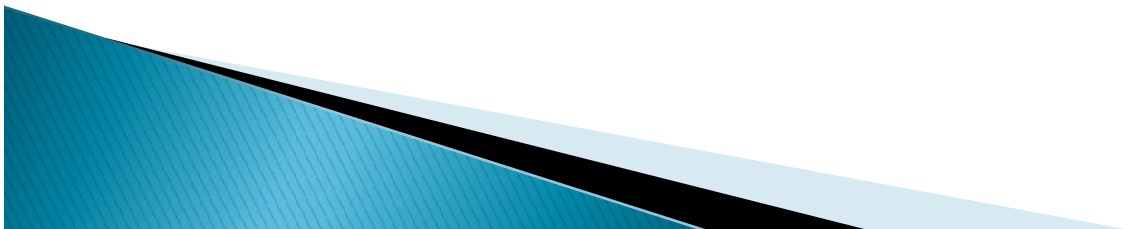
- ▶ **Ecological contexts – Ecology refers to the physical environment that a person lives in. It includes the geographical location, the vegetation, the type of animals and the natural resources. Also, roads, hospitals, schools and electricity.**

Ecology determines the type of food eaten, clothing, occupation, and the division of tasks and responsibilities between men and women.

rural/ urban/ tribal; hills/plains/desert are ecologically different.

- ▶ **Living in a city (urban area)**
- ▶ **Living in a village (Rural Area)**
- ▶ **Living in a tribal settlement**

Identify specific factors that influence the characteristics of childhood in your context.



Thank You