

# E. Erickson's Stages of Development

Stage	Basic Conflict	Important Events	Outcome
<b>Infancy</b> (birth to 18 months)	<b>Trust vs. Mistrust</b>	<b>Feeding</b>	Children develop a sense of trust when caregivers provide reliability, care and affection. A lack of this will lead to mistrust.
<b>Early Childhood</b> (2-3 years)	<b>Autonomy vs. Shame and Doubt</b>	<b>Toilet Training</b>	Children need to develop a sense of personal control over physical skills and a sense of independence. Success leads to feelings of autonomy. Failure results in feelings of shame and doubt.
<b>Preschool</b> (3-5 years)	<b>Initiative vs. Guilt</b>	<b>Exploration</b>	Children need to begin asserting control and power over the environment. Success in this stage leads to a sense of purpose. Children who try to exert too much power experience disapproval, resulting in a sense of guilt.
<b>School Age</b> (6-11 years)	<b>Industry vs. Inferiority</b>	<b>School</b>	Children need to cope with new social and academic demands. Success leads to a sense of competence, while failure results in feelings of inferiority.
<b>Adolescence</b> (12-18 years)	<b>Identity vs. Role Confusion</b>	<b>Social Relationships</b>	Teens need to develop a sense of self and personal identity. Success leads to an ability to stay true to yourself, while failure leads to role confusion and a weak sense of self.
<b>Young Adulthood</b> (19-40 years)	<b>Intimacy vs. Isolation</b>	<b>Relationships</b>	Young adults need to form intimate, loving relationships with other people. Success leads to strong relationships, while failure results in loneliness and isolation.
<b>Middle Adulthood</b> (40-65 years)	<b>Generativity vs. Stagnation</b>	<b>Work and Parenthood</b>	Adults need to create or nurture things that will outlast them, often by having children or creating a positive change that benefits other people. Success leads to feelings of usefulness and accomplishment, while failure results in shallow involvement in the world.
<b>Maturity</b> (65-Death)	<b>Ego Integrity vs. Despair</b>	<b>Reflection on Life</b>	Older adults need to look back on life and feel a sense of fulfillment. Success at this stage leads to feelings of wisdom, while failure results in regret, bitterness and despair.