

Table 1

Summary of Four Stages in the Development of Self-Concept and Occupational Preferences

Characteristic	1. Orientation to size and power	2. Orientation to sex roles	3. Orientation to social valuation	4. Orientation to internal, unique self
Ages (years)	3-5	6-8	9-13	14 and over
Grades	Nursery school and kindergarten	1-3	4-8	9 and over
Thought processes	Intuitive	Concrete	Less concrete	Abstract
Ability to classify objects, people, occupations	Has not achieved object constancy	Simple groupings	Two-factor groupings	Complex groupings
New elements in perceptions of self and others	Little vs. big	Gender	Social class and intelligence	Personal interests, values, and competencies
New elements in occupational perceptions and preferences	Occupations as adult roles	Sextype	Prestige level	Field of work