

Prep 6-Ainsworth's strange situation



You need to work through all the activities below using the strange situation clip on the website, pages 17-18 of your attachment packs and your brains.

Activity one-Types of attachment (pg 17/18 of packs)

There are three types of attachment according to Ainsworth **Secure, insecure-avoidant, insecure-resistant**. Match the correct type of attachment to the correct descriptions below.

_____ This type of child avoids interaction with their care-giver and treats the stranger and care-giver in a similar way. There is little or no separation anxiety and they avoid contact with the care-giver.

_____ This type of child has a harmonious relationship with their care-giver, explores freely when in the room and is distressed when separated. They however are easily soothed on their return.

_____ This type of child does not explore and clings to the mother, gets very distressed when separated and seeks and rejects intimacy when mother returns.

_____ This type of attachment is created as a result of sensitive responding by the caregiver to the infants need.

_____ These types of attachment are created as a result of a caregiver's lack of sensitive responding to the infants needs.

Activity two-Deciding how a child is attached (page 18 of packs).

Ainsworth came up with a list of behaviours that can be used to identify attachment styles in infant. Below is a table with these behaviours in but some are missing, add them in.

Secure Attachment (66%)	Insecure-avoidant (22%)	Insecure-resistant (12%)
Harmonious and cooperative relationship	_____ willingness to explore (_____ from caregiver)	_____ willingness to explore
_____ willingness to explore (using caregiver as _____)	_____ social interaction and intimacy with others and treat caregivers and strangers	_____ stranger anxiety
High _____ anxiety	_____	Both _____ and _____ intimacy and social interaction
Enthusiastic on reunion with _____	_____ stranger anxiety	_____ distressed on separation from caregiver (high separation anxiety)
Some _____ anxiety but maybe soothed	Indifferent/_____/___ separation anxiety	_____ and _____ reunion from caregiver (angrily resisting being picked up but seek proximity in different ways)
	_____ contact on reunion with caregiver	

Activity three-applying to a scenario (using activity two)

Below is a description of two children interacting with their care-givers, you need to decide what type of attachment they are displaying and give evidence from the scenario to justify your answer.

Jemima and Ellie both had one year old children. Although both infants were happy to explore their environment when the parents were present, Jemima's child cried when she left the room, but was soothed easily when Jemima returned, Ellie's child did not seem to mind being left alone and did not seem interested when Ellie returned. Jemima's child showed a high level of anxiety in the presence of a stranger, whereas Ellie's child did not seem concerned when the stranger when was in the room.

Jemima's child

Type of attachment-_____

Examples from scenario-

Ellie's child

Type of attachment-_____

Examples from scenario-

Activity four- The strange situation-an ethical study? (Use the informed consent interview and debrief from clip)

How did the psychologist deal with the following potential ethical issues, give examples from the clip in your answer.

Deception

-

Right to withdraw

-
-

Informed consent

-

Protection of participants

-
-
-

Privacy

-

Did the psychologist deal with ethical issues adequately then? Was this study an ethical study? Write one paragraph below justifying your answer.

Activity five-The strange situation (using the clip)

Fill in the procedures table below for the strange situation after watching the clip.

Stages	People in the room and what do they do?	Behaviour of baby G during the stage (think about things like-exploring the room, interactions with mum, reaction to stranger, reaction when reunited etc)
1	Mum, infant, researcher Researcher shows them the room and then leaves.	Baby enters the room happily and looks around.
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		

Activity 6 Classifying baby G's attachment style

Using your observations from activity 5 tick each of the behaviours in the table below that baby G displays and use that to decide what attachment style baby G has and justify your answer.

Secure Attachment (66%)	Insecure-avoidant (22%)	Insecure-resistant (12%)
<p>Harmonious and cooperative relationship</p> <p>High willingness to explore (using caregiver as safe base)</p> <p>High stranger anxiety</p> <p>Enthusiastic on reunion with caregiver</p> <p>Some separation anxiety but maybe soothed</p>	<p>Avoid social interaction and intimacy with others and treat caregivers and strangers similarly</p> <p>High willingness to explore (independently from caregiver)</p> <p>Low stranger anxiety</p> <p>Indifferent/little/no separation anxiety</p> <p>Avoids contact on reunion with caregiver</p>	<p>Both seek and reject intimacy and social interaction</p> <p>Low willingness to explore</p> <p>High stranger anxiety</p> <p>Very distressed on separation from caregiver (high separation anxiety)</p> <p>Seeks and rejects reunion from caregiver (angrily resisting being picked up but seek proximity in different ways)</p>

Baby G is securely attached/avoidant/resistant (delete appropriate) because he displays the following behaviour _____


