Prep 9- Romanian Orphan studies

In order to complete this prep you will need to watch clips, listen to a radio show and complete activities below. On the prep page there is a button next to the prep that says "click here for radio and video clips"

Background research

1. Why look at Romania when studying the negative effects of attachment? In the early 1990s, the west was horrified by images showing thousands of neglected children being housed in Romania's overcrowded, state-run orphanages. **You need to find out the reason for this occurring in Romania and write a description below.**

2. Watch the first clip on the website to give you an idea of exactly how bad the conditions actually were. Add in a description of the conditions you are seeing below.

3. So what does the research say? Rutter's ERA study is the key research that you will need to know here (you will listen to him talking about it in a radio show later). Now though go to page 25 of your pack and answer the questions below, then learn the figures!

a) Who where Rutter's sample? How many were there and how were they assessed when they arrived?

b) Who were the control group and why did he use a control group?

C) Give details of the orphans physical development when they arrived in the UK.

d) What about IQ on arrival? (in case you don't know an average IQ at any age is 100).

e) At 4 years old how was the IQ and physical development of all of the orphans?

f) What did O'Connor find out in their research? Is this similar to what Rutter found?

g) Kumasta found that they are 4 patterns linked to institutionalisation. Below state what they are with a description.

1-

2-

3-

4-

4. Listen to the radio show on the website: Romanian Orphanage Babies 21 years on from 11th October 2011. It is about the ERA studies and it lasts for 28 minutes. Whilst you are listening, answer the questions that follow. Approximate timings in minutes are given for when the answer to the question appears, but do listen to all of the programme.

5-6 Briefly describe some of the conditions in the Romanian orphanages.

9-10 How quickly do Addy's parents say she adapted to British life when she was adopted?

10-11.30 Rutter describes studying the Romanian orphans as a unique natural experiment. Why do the studies provide such a good opportunity to find things out about child development?

12.50-13 How is the early period of catch up that most Romanian orphans went through immediately after they were adopted described? The answer is just one word.

13.40-13.50 Of those children who were adopted after six months, what proportion of them have significant problems?

14.20-14.30 Have the problems endured for these children or not?

15-16 What type of problems do these children have?

17.20-17.40 The researchers think that something may be different about the structure of the brain of the children who have not adapted so well since adoption. What was discovered about the head circumference of these children that led to investigations of brain structure?

19.50 – 20 Early research involving brain scans indicates that a part of the brain called the amygdala may be different in the children who have not adapted so well. What does the amygdala do?

23.50-24.30 Most of the children who were adopted after six months have no apparent problems and can be described as having natural resilience. What are the three theories that attempt to explain why some children adopted after six months have no ill effects yet others have many?

1)

2)

3)

27-27.20 Do the ERA studies agree with a previously held view that all emotional development is over by 3 years?

Extension- still want to know more?

Watch the second clip on the website and answer the following questions.

What are the long term effects on children of institutionalisation?

Why do institutions cause these problems?

For the lesson after this one- complete the love quiz and save or print out your results!!

- http://www.web-research-design.net/cgi-bin/crq/crq.pl