

Re: Why is OO Popular?

Source: <http://coding.derkeiler.com/Archive/General/comp.object/2004-05/0209.html>

From: Thomas Gagné (tgagne_at_wide-open-west.com)

Date: 05/04/04

Date: Tue, 04 May 2004 10:02:52 -0400

Eric Kaun wrote:

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>*This is just great – having advanced philosophy, math, logic, linguistics,
>and science over thousands of years, it's time to base our computer systems
>on the interactions of young children.*

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>*Should we introduce CPU nap times as well?*

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No, but it sounds like programmer nap times are a good idea!

How much of the science have you just identified that actually damages your argument? Philosophy strives for simple explanations to complex phenomena. Math tries to reduce expressions to their simplest forms. Logic is simple. Linguistics are complicated, but we all appreciate the utility of a simple, well crafted statement over a more complicated one. Science is always looking for the simple explanation. Occam's razor. $e=mc^2$, etc.

As far as humans are concerned, children are about as simple as you can get—and thankfully haven't had 12+ years of crap telling them what things are. They interact naturally without thinking about what they're thinking about.

To follow your argument, to catch a ball I would have to calculate its trajectory, its starting speed, air density and friction, its mass, the affect of gravity, gross motor skills, and any number of things just to catch a ball thrown at me. Perhaps some of us do (or try to which is why some aren't athletically inclined) but I suspect not. Children do all kinds of things using much simpler models than those that propose more complicated ones must exist and be understood. The evidence is to the contrary (IMO).

Want to study how brains work? Study the simple ones. Want to study intelligence? Observe the development of a child from birth through the

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first 12 months and measure what it is they've discovered without the benefits of philosophy, math, logic, linguistics and science.

Using your argument nothing would be developed (including children) because of the lack of a prerequisite education.

Or, I may have missed your whole point because I lack the prerequisites. Time to roll a ball to my 9-month old to see if he's conquered motor skills, friction, acceleration/deceleration, objects-in-motion, etc.

> <snip>

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.tom

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