CHapter 2 vocab

# hypothesis

A prediction drawn from a theory

# naturalistic observation

To go into the field, or natural environment, and record the behavior of interest

# structured observation

The investigator sets up a laboratory situation that evokes the behavior of interest so that every participant has an equal opportunity to display the response

# event sampling

The observer records all instances of a particular behavior during a specified time period

# time sampling

The researcher records whether certain behaviors occur during a sample of short intervals

# observer influence

The effects of the observer on the behavior studied

# observer bias

When observers are aware of the purposes of the study, they may see and record what they expect to see rather than what participants actually do

#

# clinical interview

Researchers use a flexible, conversational style to probe for the participant’s point of view

# structured interview

Each individual is asked the same set of questions in the same way

# neurobiological methods

Measure the relationship between nervous system processes and behavior

# case study

Brings together a wide range of information on one child, including interviews, observations, test scores, and sometimes neurobiological measures

# reliability

The consistency, or repeatability, of measures of behavior

# validity

Research methods accurately measure characteristics that the researcher set out to measure

# internal validity

The degree to which conditions internal to the design of the study permit an accurate test of the researcher’s hypothesis or question

# external validity

The degree to which their findings generalize to settings and participants outside the original study