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Behavioral Learning Theory Infographic
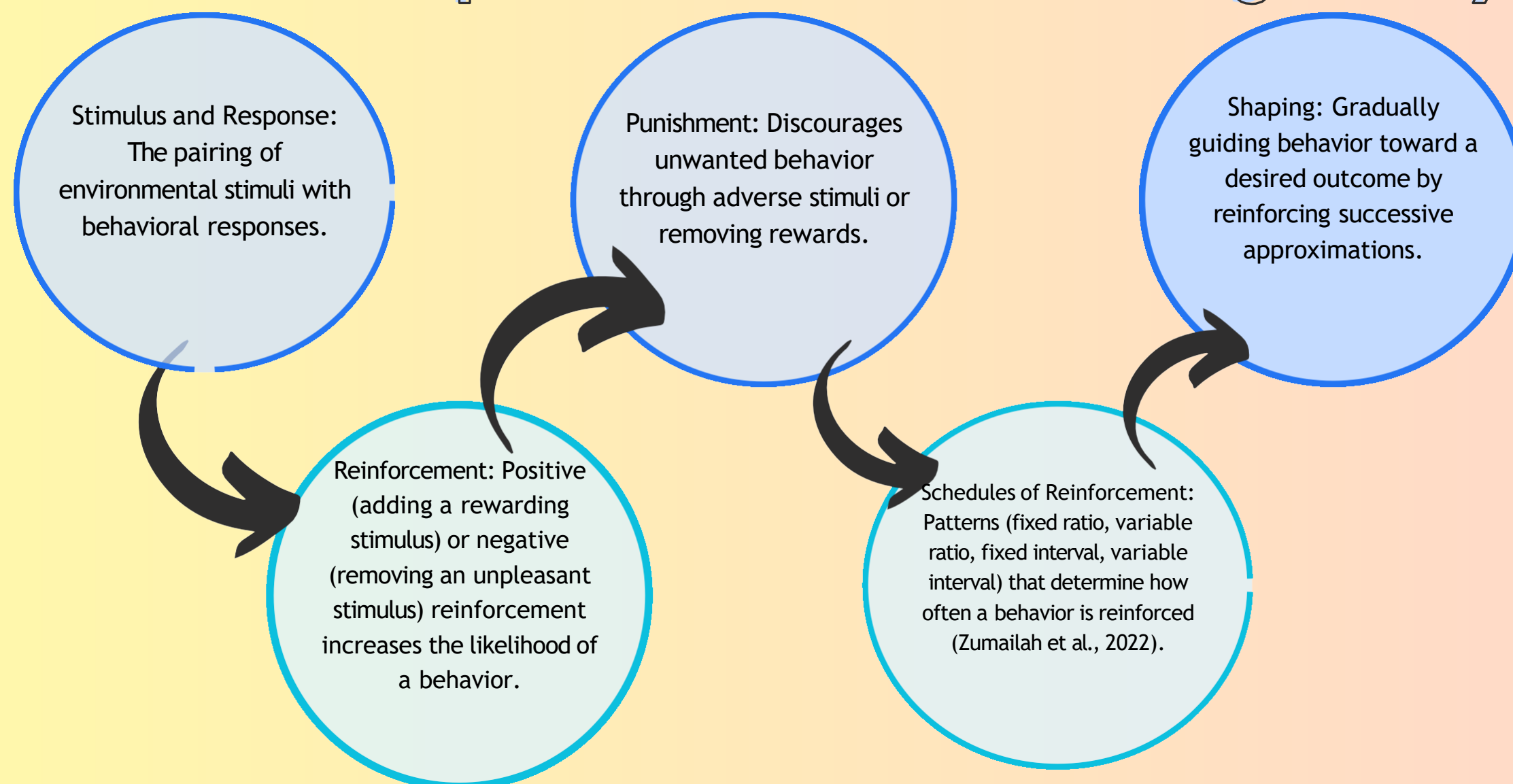
WHAT IS LEARNING THEORY BEHAVIORAL

Behavioral learning theory, or behaviorism, emphasizes observable behavior changes in response to environmental stimuli. It seeks to understand how experiences shape learning through conditioning, reinforcement, and other behavior-modifying mechanisms (Zumailah et al., 2022).

Behavioral Learning in Instruction

Behaviorism-inspired instructional methods include:
- Programmed Instruction: Breaking down content into manageable steps.
- Mastery Learning: Ensuring learners master each step before proceeding.
- Positive Reinforcement: Providing rewards or feedback to shape behavior gradually (Zumailah et al., 2022).

Core Concepts in Behavioral Learning Theory

Stimulus and Response: The pairing of environmental stimuli with behavioral responses.

Reinforcement: Positive (adding a rewarding stimulus) or negative (removing an unpleasant stimulus) reinforcement increases the likelihood of a behavior.

Punishment: Discourages unwanted behavior through adverse stimuli or removing rewards.

Schedules of Reinforcement: Patterns (fixed ratio, variable ratio, fixed interval, variable interval) that determine how often a behavior is reinforced (Zumailah et al., 2022).

Shaping: Gradually guiding behavior toward a desired outcome by reinforcing successive approximations.

Key Theorists and Their Contributions

IVAN PAVLOV (1849-1936)
- Contribution: Classical Conditioning
- Description: Pavlov discovered that dogs could learn to associate a neutral stimulus (like a bell) with food, which led them to salivate even in the absence of food. This concept of associating stimuli with automatic responses became known as classical conditioning (Burhanuddin et al., 2021).
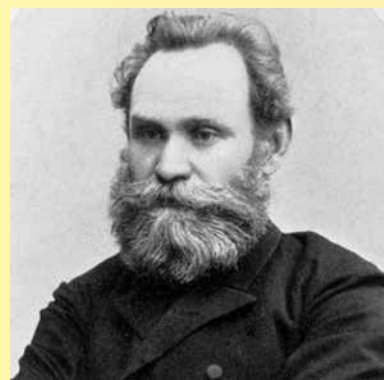
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JOHN B. WATSON (1878-1958)
- Contribution: Founding Behaviorism
- Description: Watson emphasized the study of observable behaviors over internal mental states, considering behavior predictable and controllable through environmental manipulation. He famously demonstrated conditioned responses in humans, as seen in the "Little Albert" experiment (Burhanuddin et al., 2021).

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B.F. SKINNER (1904-1990)
- Contribution: Operant Conditioning
- Description: Skinner introduced the concept of reinforcement, using consequences to modify behavior. Positive and negative reinforcements, as well as punishment, shape behavior over time. Skinner's work laid the foundation for modern behavioral interventions and instructional techniques (Burhanuddin et al., 2021).

Retrieved from: https://geniuses.club/genius/burrhus-frederic-skinner

References

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