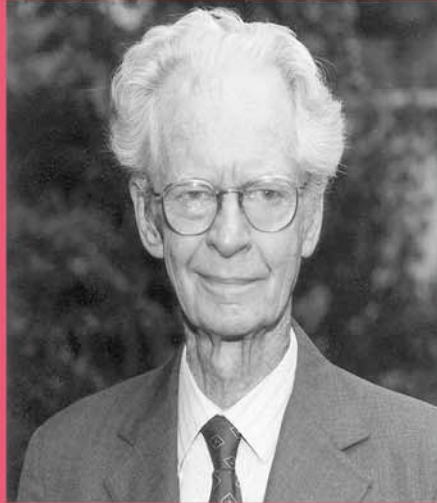


# B.F. Skinner



**Skinner's theory is based on "operant conditioning" – behaviour is followed by a consequence and the nature of the consequence modifies the tendency to repeat the behaviour – a method of learning through rewards and punishment. He introduced the concepts of positive reinforcement (i.e. if the desired behaviour occurs something good happens) and negative reinforcement (i.e. when a bad behaviour is stopped by the desired behaviour).**

## Theories In Practice

- **Children learn through trial and error.**
- **Educators should provide positive feedback and negative feedback to try to influence a child's behaviour.**
- **There is support for the notion of simple rewards, such as positive support for children's emotional needs, but "punishment" is not supported.**