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### Observation Summary Paper 1: Infant/Toddler Observation

The child observed by me for the purpose of this paper is a nineteen months old boy, his name is Avery. The day of observation was 17<sup>th</sup> of September and it started at 10:30am when he woke up from his nap, in which according to his mother he slept for an hour. The setting of the observation was the apartment where he lives. The apartment is a very clean and child safe environment but the toys and play space is only at the children's rooms, there were no toys or play objects in the living room or kitchen, the living room and kitchen area of the apartment are very open and spacious, and so is the child's bedroom. In his room there is a crib, a changing table/dresser and a couch that serves as a bed when visitors stay over. He has several toys and books, but his favorite toy seemed to be a doll and doll stroller that he instantly went to play with as soon as he woke up. He also is very attached to his blanket and wants to carry it with him everywhere. After the child played for 20-30 minutes independently, his mother got him to change his diaper and he cried and said "no no no" because he didn't want to have his diaper changed, afterwards she proceeded to put him in his high chair, he did not want to sit in it but did not cry once buckled in. For lunch, he first ate pieces of fruits (bananas, strawberries and blueberries) and she prepared him a cheese quesadilla, when that was ready it was given to him cut in small pieces and he ate independently but being supervised and watched by his mother. He

ate almost everything that was given to him and asked for water “wawa”. When he was finished eating his lunch he said “all done”, he was not happy with “clean up” time, he followed directions to put his hands out so that his mom could wipe them off but cried when she cleaned his face and used the word “stop”, it was then 11:30am and she allowed him to watch 20 minutes of a children’s tv show called “Baby Einstein” while she cleaned the kitchen and folded laundry. He wasn’t too interested in the television and while watching he also played with toy cars and pushed his baby doll stroller around the living room also putting the toy cars on the stroller and putting the doll on the couch and feeding it with a play bottle, he also played with a set of toy brooms. In his play he was very aggressive when throwing cars around but very gentle with the doll. Even though he wasn’t too interested on the tv show, the child was not happy when it was time to turn it off. He cried and repeatedly said the word “back” which meant he wanted it back but it was time to pick up his older brother at school, and he got very excited and forgot instantly about the tv when his mom told him it was time to put his shoes on, he followed directions to go to his room and get his shoes and on the stroller, he happily climbed on the stroller and said “go go go”. Child seems very active and strong because it was a big double stroller and he easily climbed up on his own. He understands that when he sits down he needs to buckle up and tries to do it himself, and even though he can’t he seems very interested in it. Once out of the apartment, I noticed that he was saying “button”, and then realized he wanted to press the button for the elevator, he also wanted to press the buttons inside the elevator but couldn’t reach them because he was strapped in the stroller, he whined for a minute but not a big cry and once we got downstairs to the lobby, the doorman talked to him and he waved and said Hi and Bye happily. His mom gave him a small toy to play with during the walk, but he threw it away and seemed very content just looking around watching people and cars, he is a very curious and

interactive child, at his brother's school he also waved to the security guard and smiled. Once we arrived back to the apartment, he started crying a lot because his brother had a scooter and he wanted to ride his, so his mom got his scooter as well and he seemed to understand and not complain about putting on a helmet first. His motor skills and ability to ride a scooter surprised me, he tried to imitate his older brother "going fast" down the hallway and saying the word "fast", so I believe that a lot of his development also comes from having interactions with an older child every day. His mom told both children that the best place for the scooter was on the rooftop, so they both gave the scooters to the mother when she opened the door to go upstairs to the rooftop of the building. Avery climbed the steps with supervision but independently.

I observed Avery's day until 3:30pm, throughout that time he used several words, like: hi, bye, no, stop, baby, "baba" for bottle "wawa" for water, look, mama, car, cup, book, nana for banana, shoe, "bruh" for his toy broom, "too" for scooter, fast, go, button, all done. During the observation what struck me the most was how the child easily followed directions for the most part and how agile and fast he was while climbing and riding a scooter at only nineteen months old, my past experience with infant/toddler age the child wasn't as motor developed but was more developed in speech at this age, which brings me to the next thing I observed, that even though he uses several small words I still thought his speech wasn't as developed as what I had experience with in the past. The new insight this observation brought me is the fact that each child is different and develops at their own pace. While observing this child I thought about all of the theories of child development and how they all apply, but specifically thought about the social learning theory because of how he imitated his older brother while playing.