

You are visiting in an early childhood classroom. You observe the following situations. What are your thoughts and reactions? What are your judgments? Do you feel more comfortable with scenario A or B for each situation? Be honest. Post your responses to each situation to the blog.

Situation 1:

- a. One teacher is seated eating her lunch. The other two teachers are cleaning up around the room. The children are eating independently, some are using their hands, some are playing with their food, and some are talking and socializing not eating.
- b. It is mealtime in an early childhood classroom. The children are seated at tables. The teachers are seated around the tables with the children. The teachers are not eating their lunch, but they are helping the children with their lunches. The teachers reminding children about using silverware and table manners.

Situation 2:

- a. It is nap time in an early childhood classroom. All of the children are getting ready for to sleep. The teachers have dimmed the lights and put on soft music. Each child is escorted to his or her cot and teachers are rubbing and patting them to sleep. They take time to help any child who is not falling asleep. Before long, all of the children in the classroom are sleeping.
- b. It is naptime in an early childhood classroom. The children are getting ready to rest. The children are sent to their cots. The teachers are quietly working in the room. When a child starts to make noise or be disruptive, a teacher gives the child a book to look at. A few children are sleeping.

Situation 3:

- a. You are touring in a day care center. The director is giving you information about each of the classrooms. You notice that some of the children in the older toddler room seem older/bigger than the others. The director explains that in order for the older toddlers to transition into the preschool they need to be toilet trained.
- b. You are touring a day care center. The director is giving you information about each of the classrooms. You notice that some of the children in preschool classrooms are wearing diapers. The director explains that they use a readiness philosophy for toilet learning (children indicate when they are ready to learn to use the toilet).

Situation 4:

- a. It is the beginning of the school year. The children are getting to know their classrooms and teachers. The parents of the children are not in the center. Many of the children are crying. The teachers explained that it is easier to have the parents leave and help the children get used to being in school.
- b. It is the beginning of the school year. The children are getting to know their classrooms and teachers. Some of the children are crying. The parents of the children are in the classroom or on-site. The teachers explained that it is best to have a slow phase-in so the children can be comfortable.