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ECE 211

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The Zoo: Activity Plan

My Curriculum web theme is called All About Animals and children will learn about different types of animals through fun interactive activities. For my five subthemes I chose: The zoo, Spiders, Different Pets, Animals Underwater, and last but not least, My Favorite animal. Each subtheme will have different activities that will target different domains while also including language, literacy, and art as a tool. I chose the subtheme: The zoo, for my main activity plan because this study provides real life context and includes multiple subject areas for children to learn.

For my activity children will be able to recreate an animal exhibit and design the habitat of their animal. They will observe the animal they have been given and learn about what they eat, how they look, and what they do which will all take place in the observation center. They will then be presented with different art materials such as modeling clay, tissue paper, glue, and etc. for them to construct and use in the art center. They will be able to move back and forth from the different centers including the writing center where children will be able to make signs and stamps for their exhibit. After they have completed their exhibit, we will put them all together to recreate our own zoo park which will then lead to dramatic play in the classroom.

In a classroom, language and literacy development is important to be seen through culturally responsive lens because many children have different ethnicities and mioooay speak more than one language. In the article, “Many Languages, One teacher: Supporting Language

and Literacy Development for Preschool Dual Language Learners” it reads, “Mrs. Blakley’s classroom is culturally and linguistically diverse, representing more than five different languages and ethnicities” (NAEYC pg.9). My activity is developmentally and culturally appropriate for a diverse group of pre-k learners because we will have multiple animal books of different languages for children that are bilingual. Children will also learn and be able to appreciate different cultures and where different animals are originated from all around the world.

This activity will offer opportunities for a range of learning styles and needs for all children. In the book “Nurturing Creativity” it says, “Groups of this size provide a supportive environment for children to contribute ideas, formulate plans, ask questions, and adjust to groups consensus” (Isbell & Yoshizawa Pg. 46). There will be different materials so all children can use even the ones that are struggling, and they will be working in pairs/groups so they can help each other out. There will be many learning styles for this activity, like I said before, there will be writing opportunities, reading opportunities, and creative opportunities.

This activity will help children target all their domains while also having fun and exploring. Children will be able to understand how animals live, what they need, and what the role of a zookeeper is. They will develop their knowledge by using compare and contrast and accumulating information based on their observations they used to design their project. Children will even be able to learn new vocabulary and will be able to read and write throughout the activity allowing them to develop their language and literacy skills. This activity will be a great learning experience for all children!

Cite page:

Isbell, Rebecca T., and Sonia Akiko. Yoshizawa. *Nurturing Creativity: an Essential Mindset for Young Children's Learning*. National Association for the Education of Young Children, 2016.

Dombrink-Green, Meghan, and Holly Bohart. *Spotlight on Young Children: Supporting Dual Language Learners*. National Association for the Education of Young Children, 2015.