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Analysis and Commentary Paper

Introduction: There were many different children I enjoyed observing and learning from. The child I decided to focus on is Joy. Her age is not stated but the video lets us know that she is in preschool. Joy is wearing a colorful short sleeve dress with a blue the hoodie. She has a dark complexion. Has short and dark hair. Her hair is in braids. Two braids upfront and two braids in the back. She also has very big eyes and her eyebrows going downwards. I want to focus on this child because she sort of reminded me. She would get along with Johna very well. She was smiling the whole time while playing the puzzle with Johna.

Developmental Skills, Processes, and Milestones: As a child in preschool, Joy was always smiling even when she would get things wrong and would get corrected by Jonah. An example of her cognition development was she was able to stay focused on the activity for a long period. Another example is she was able to remember where certain pieces used to go. So when Jonah would get the piece wrong she would reach for the piece and grab it. Another example of her cognition development was when she was to close her eyes by Jonah and she would. She would place her hands covering her eyes. In her emotional development, she was able to express herself. When she wasn't sure her facial attitude would change. She was always smiling, indicating she was happy. Even though there weren't any interactions with other children and teachers. In her social development, she was able to get along with Jonah. In her language

milestones, Joy was able to make a 3-4 word sentence with Jonah. When she would speak to Jonah, she would say “Close your eyes please”. Joy demonstrated several fine motor skills. Joy was mostly using her left hand to pick up the puzzle pieces. She also demonstrated a few gross motor skills. She was able to stand on her tiptoes for a while. When she didn’t want to be sitting down she got up and stayed standing up for a while.

Developmental theories: The cognitive development that Joy is in is the Preoperational Stage. I know this because she is about 3-4 years old. Joy was involved with Jonah trying to figure out the pieces to the puzzle. Piaget believed kids take a role in their learning. They are like little scientists because they observe and make experiments. Joy was grabbing the pieces and trying to figure out where the pieces would go. When they wouldn’t fit she would grab it and try to figure out where. She would observe Jonah and see where his next pieces would go. For Joy’s social-emotional development she is in Initiative vs Guilt. I know this because she was playing with the puzzle. Vygotsky believed individuals learn and develop within their role in the community. Joy is in a classroom around other kids, but she was with Jonah solving puzzles in the frame.

Cultural influences on development: My parents came from small towns in Mexico. My father is from 1977 and my mother is from 1982. They arrived in the U.S as teenagers. I was born in the U.S, making me a Mexican-American child, grew up in Staten Island, along with my two siblings. My sister is 4 years younger than me and my brother is 2 years younger. I grew up pretty close to my siblings since there isn’t a huge age difference. When I speak Spanish, people would automatically think I don’t know English or I’m illegal. Spanish was my first language. That’s the way I would communicate with my parents and other family members. Started school and I had to learn English. Another aspect of my development is family composition. I grew up with both parents and two of my siblings. Every summer or any vacation, we would go spend

time with my grandma and family in the Bronx. Traditions we would have is everyone being home for dinner and celebrating Day of the Dead, to honor our loved ones who passed away. Another holiday is Christmas, it was my favorite growing up. We would go to church on Christmas Eve, after church we would go to my aunts to celebrate or to the Bronx with my family. While speaking about church, I grew up Catholic. My parents don't believe in LGBTQ. They believe it's not in the bible. The older I'm getting, I have friends who have my full support. If they are happy I'm happy for them. No one in my family has come out, well that I know of. Growing up, I was told, "men go to work to provide while women stay at home to cook, clean, and take care of kids". My mom would look out for us, while my dad would go to work almost every day besides Monday. Another way I had to look out for the men in my family. Meaning when I was older I would put my husband's needs before mine. Even though we don't see much of Joy, besides her sitting down and interacting with Jonah. She is a black preschooler. She has a dark complexion and has thick hair with braids. You can't tell much about her. She is very well behaved, always listening when Jonah would speak to her. She would help him get the puzzle pieces and then

Comparing development at different ages/stages: Joy and the 9-year-old baby both have many similarities and many differences. First being their age, Joy is about 3-4 and is in preschool. The baby is about 9 months. The baby babes "ah" and "mhm" a lot. A gross motor she was able to crawl and can sit up with no support. A fine motor skill is being able to pass objects from one hand to the other hand. That's what the baby did with the Montessori ball. Joy is in preschool, so she has reached most of her milestones. Most of the time Joy stands up and sits back down on the blue chair. She can have a 4-5 word sentence. One similarity they have was their language. Even though they have different ways they both reached a milestone.

Comparing how settings may influence behavior: In Joy's settings, there was a rug and the shelves were pretty much organized. She was sitting down and with a wide table. There was plenty of space for the child to move to place the pieces. On the other hand, the 9-month-old baby had plenty of space to move around. To be able to crawl around. The shelves weren't overcrowded. They were organized well and each self, had about one or two items. The settings could have influenced the child's behavior because if they are in a small tight area, they might cry or not be comfortable. If they are in a well-organized setting they learn to be organized.

Conclusion: As an observer, I was able to understand that all kids are different. They all think differently. Before I used to say cause it was just obvious but now I was able to gain experience. Piaget believed that children take an active role in the learning process, acting much like little scientists as they perform experiments, make observations, and learn about the world. Most of the kids that we're able to observe did their thinking. When the 9-month baby was deciding to put the Montessori ball with her left or right hand. And Joy was playing with the puzzle. Exploring where the piece would. This will help me better understand all my students. How I will be able to support their needs.