

Part 2 Capstone project: Commentary

I've gained so much throughout this course. Each module that was taught each week I gained from. This semester instead of using a child I knew I decided to use different videos each week and make observation reports. I learned the difference between both Individualized instruction and Differentiated instruction and how both are important when it comes to child development. Individualized instruction can help students gain self-confidence as learners, because lessons are tailored to their specific abilities. As students gradually build comprehension and mastery of more complicated material, they gain the self-assurance that they have the skills they need to be successful. Individualized instruction also focuses on the needs of the individual student. Teaching is specific and targets one need at a time. This teaching method can be used on its own, or it can be part of differentiated teaching. Some students who receive individualized instruction need teachers to help them understand and learn. Meanwhile Differentiated instruction allows us as teachers/caregivers to give students the support they need instead of lumping them together in one big group. Smaller groups make it easier to see who has mastered the lesson goals and has acquired the skills to move on. With differentiated instructions, teachers plan different learning experiences in response to each student's needs. Using differentiated instruction enables teachers to develop methods of teaching and learning for students of differing abilities within the same class.

It's difficult to act like to participate, observe, and take notes at the same time. Me as the observer has to be careful not to cross the im-are-not-the-user line and start designing for my own wants and needs. The need for specialized domain knowledge makes it difficult to participate in some groups. One of my challenges through-out this semester was doing

observations and not adding my judgement. It's easy to write what a child is doing (which we call in class black and white) but it's hard to not add your suggestion as to why the toddler may be acting this way. As a future Child Life Specialist I want to be able to help families understand procedures, and how their child may react to surgeries. So it is hard to not put my personal opinion.

I'm a very big fan of Maria Montessori and the way of child development in a classroom. I would create my classroom as a caring, compassionate community. I will always provide comfort in my classroom. The comfortable my children are the easier it will be to let them break out their shell. My children will learn self-awareness, self-discipline, as well as kindness and respect for others. Developing the social and emotional well-being of children is just as important as intellectual and academic development. For my observation I would use a developmental checklist make sure to have my developmental screenings close to me so i can go over what the child may need help with or what he/she is good at. have my running records to see if the toddler is repeating the same records if things have changed, etc. also, anecdotal records provide information to families, and give insights into identifying possible developmental delays. I would also take pictures, and videos to keep my documents organized.

What I learned throughout the observation videos is every child is different. Some kids find excitement through toys, noise, even colors. Different infants need different activities to have their development grow and advance. I also learned to just be observant and write down what's going on without my input being involved.

