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Commentary Paper

Jenelsey is a 3-year-old girl who is always physically active and always tries to communicate with you at all times when around someone. While observing Jenelsey at the time she was running around with grapes in her hand throwing them around the house. Observing her she was able to use her fine and gross motor skills as well as her communication skills. Jenelsey was able to use her fine motor skills by having multiple grapes in each hand grabbing them and using her gross motor skills by throwing them all with force against the floor. She was able to also use her communication skills by yelling out "haha you can't catch me tia" all while running around the house. Running around the house is a daily routine for her as soon as she wakes up she starts playing around with whoever is awake. When it comes to behavior she gets like any other kids who can't their way. Although Jenelsey was an only child till a few months back, she used to get everything she wanted since she was an only child from the newest princess castle to a new tablet to play with. Now since she is growing little by little she is more into slime which improves her fine motor skills this helps her in her development because grabbing and playing with the slime is somewhat like grasping a pencil or helping her pick up any other toy or item. Of course as a 3-year-old she has her tantrums when she doesn't get what she wants but when it comes to communicating

with the other kids in the house she knows exactly what to do if she knows she did wrong. If she knows you did something wrong even if it's not her, she will come up to you and say "that's not nice, now say sorry" and to give the right example everyone follows.

Growing up the aspects of culture have affected Jenelsey in many ways, starting with language. Jenlsey is able to speak both spanish and english, where if she doesn't know how to say words in one language she'll say it in the other for her to be able to communicate. Both languages are well spoken in the house and we help her improve her skills by speaking to her in the language we most understand. For example when Jenelsey talks to my mother, her grandmother she would speak to her in spanish because she communicates with her best specifically in spanish. When it comes to everyone else in the house for example speaking to her mom and dad she mixes both languages together because she might not say some words and it's difficult for her to keep up. When it comes to Deborah her mother speaks spanish only and her father speaks both english and spanish so the language is shared equally in their house. Debby speaks english fluently and when it comes to spanish she struggles a bit. Her mom is the only one she speaks spanish to and her father is the one who mostly communicates with her aside from her brother and sister. Her father is the one who translates everything her mom says so Debby can understand. Age is also a huge effect in both children's lives. We have about 3 kids aside from Jenelsey living in the house so playing along with others isn't a problem. Cindy (8 years), Adam (2 years) and there is an age gap between all of them but when it comes to playing that doesn't matter.

Although having this age gap isn't much of an effect on her physically but because of it when she is around the kids and there doing homework she grabs some paper and a pencil/pen and says she is also doing homework. Her watching them visually has helped her learn what the colors are, learn her numbers 1 through 20 as well as learning her fruits and vegetables. When it comes to age for Debby she has a brother Manuel (13 years) and sister Michelle (8 years). Living in another house however observing her for the day i was able to see she interacts with her sister more than her brother. Her brother is always playing video games and always stuck on the screen. When it comes to Michelle she interacts with her more, they learn from one another. Education for Jenelsey since she is three she isn't in school yet but she learns off of youtube and watching shows. Everyone in the morning goes to school so Jenelsey is left alone and wonders where everyone went when she wakes up, so she is very independent and always finds a way to keep herself entertained even if it's not playing with others. Debby, her sister and brother do go to school however so they all help one another when it comes to work. Debby is in kindergarten, Michelle is in third grade and Manuel is in eighth grade. Debby is very good when it comes to helping others according to her teacher when she understands material better than others she helps them so they can have a better understanding. Debby lives in a small apartment where only her brother and sister as well as her father and mother live. When it comes to Jenelsey she lives with us in a 5 bedroom apartment where it's my three sisters, their husbands and kids and the apartment has about 10 people so she has many people to interact with.

Growing up myself learning certain aspects wasn't so hard because I grew up around four older siblings and everything as a baby was explained in the easiest way possible. Since my parents were always working I wasn't able to socially interact with others but my family members.

When it came improving my motor skills my living room was my jungle gym, the couches were my trampoline and the chairs were my steps. When it came to my fine motor skills I struggled because I was a lefty meanwhile everyone in the house was a righty teaching me certain things in a certain matter where difficult for me to understand and be taught to. In school I struggled to write because I wasn't able to hold a pencil properly and when it came to eating my hands were my best friend. When it came to holding a spoon my eye-hand coordination wasn't so good. I would always tend to flip the spoon over and food would always end up on the floor instead of my mouth. Interacting emotionally with others was a huge problem when it came to school. I was always a shy kid who would rather talk and stay independent. When school started I didn't even want my mom to leave me behind. She would have to stay with me for at least till nap time so when I woke up she was no longer there. Culture effectively affected my cognitive skills by specifically tv shows. Dora was my favorite. Since she spoke both English and Spanish it was a big deal for my parents, watching this everyday 24/7 taught me my numbers, colors, improved my language development as well as teaching me different items around me.

During my observations Jenelsey (3 years old) and Debrah (6 years old) caught my attention the most. Their communication skills are different, every child is unique in

their way. When Jenelsey communicates in a loud voice where everyone can hear her and catch the room's attention. While when Debrah (Debby) communicates she would rather talk in a low pitch voice where it's like she is whispering and shy. Jenelsey would rather pay attention while Debby would look around biting her fingers to make sure only the person she is speaking to is listening.

When it comes to cognitive skills they are very much alike while Jenelsey sorts her blocks in color coordination or size order Deborah always knows where she leaves her belongings. When she misplaces something she doesn't panic, because she knows it's around and not lost instead she would retrace her steps and look for it. Both girls are always physically active when together but when their separated Debby is more quiet and independent while Jenelsey always has a way to interact with others without having any type of relationship. They are different when it comes to language development however, Jenelsey mimics everything you say and it affects her in a good and bad way because she can improve her vocabulary and improves the way she communicates with others. Debrah learns through watching tv shows and going to school so she improves by talking and communicating with her friends as well as reading books and other school activities.

When observing both Jenelsey and Deborah I was taking care of them at home with other kids present as well. Jenelsey was in the living room playing around with grapes, she was counting them before eating some and throwing the others on the floor. When observing Deborah she was so quiet and would rather be on her tablet instead of playing with the other outside. The settings were similar because both children were

observed at home so they were in a more comfortable environment, they were able to be themselves. Jenelsey however since she was alone played around with food and when telling her it was wrong she did start to cry before realizing it was wrong to play with food. While observing Deborah she was also at home except she decided not to play with the rest of the kids in the house because "they make too much noise" and she didn't like it. The settings could have affected their behavior because of how the kids were playing in the house. It could have affected Jenelsey because while observing her it was just me and her, not to play with. This could have affected Deborah because of the amount of noise in the house and how they were playing. At the time the kids in the house were playing tag and each one got excited every time they tagged one another. However this environment could affect both the kid's development because since there are many kids in the house they learn from one another whether it's playing to helping one another with homework or playing games.

In conclusion my experience as an observer was very intriguing because I was able to see how kids interact with one another even if it's with kids they don't know. I was able to learn that children learn through play meanwhile parents would always ask why their kids play all day. Playing helps a child's development by improving math skills as well as science and interacting with others. I was able to gain more knowledge on how a child goes through multiple stages of behavior and emotions when interacting with others in their community. I learned to help children interact with others even if they are shy because it will affect them in the future. Aside from the observation many readings explained how a shy child would have difficulty in the future if they don't interact with

children they will lack certain skills fine and motor as well as interacting socially and physically. This will impact me as an early childhood professional because after the experience I was able to have a better understanding of how and why children react to the way they react to certain situations and how to approach them by teaching them right from wrong.