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ECE 110-191L

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COMMENTARY PAPER

This past few weeks I have had the opportunity to observe three children of different age groups. They were infants, preschool age children, and a young school age child. I chose a young school age girl named Amy for the final analysis of the child development paper.

Cognition:

- Amy makes a mountain out of sand. This demonstrates her ability of being creative, her ability of using different materials and her thinking skills.
- Amy asked her dad for help when she saw her sister in danger. This demonstrates her knowledge and ability to understand, especially when something is not right and her skills to help others.
- Amy asks her dad for permission before walking to the other side of the playground. This demonstrates her knowledge of being respectful, asking questions and her communication skills.

Language:

Receptive

- I ask Amy if she enjoyed the park?, She responds, "Yes". This demonstrates her ability to understand, answer questions and interact with others.

- When Amy called her dad pointing to the other side, and he took his time, she stopped calling him. This demonstrates her ability to understand that she needs to wait, respecting the rights of others and her communication skills.
- I explained to Amy what to do and not to do in the park, and she stayed and listened. This demonstrates her listening skills, follows limits and follows instructions.

Expressive

- Amy says “No.” This demonstrates her ability of understanding what to say when she does not want her play interrupted, standing up for self and use of language.
- Amy says “I want to make it faster.” This demonstrates her ability to speak clearly and speak in sentences and expressing her needs.
- Amy says “Daddy she needs help.” This demonstrates her knowledge of knowing something is not right, helping others and use of vocabulary.

Social Emotional Development:

- Amy Asked her sister if she needed help. This demonstrates her attachment bond with members of her family because she cares and worries for them and her ability of being supportive.
- Amy is smiling and hugging her sister. This demonstrates her ability to show others love, promotes prosocial behavior of affection and maintaining friendship.
- Amy waits for her sister to get down from the climbing game. This demonstrates her ability of being supportive, helping others, and showing responsibility.

Motor Development:

- Amy runs around the park. This domains her running skills, engaging in play and ability to balance her body.
- Amy grabs sticks around the play area for her sand mountain. This domains her ability of passing and grabbing objects with her hand, her creativity and concept of numbers or more.
- Amy goes back and forth on the swing. This domains her muscle strength. muscle development and her play skills.

Activities of daily living:

- Amy dresses herself fully. This demonstrates her ability to make choices and develop independence and taking care of her own needs.
- Amy loves making her favorite peanut, butter and jelly sandwich. This demonstrates her ability to participate in meeting her needs, and develop self-confidence.
- Amy carries her backpack to school and makes sure to have all her work done. This demonstrates her ability to be responsible and take care of her own needs.

My Aspect of culture

Language:

My first language is spanish. At age five, I started learning english in school. They have considered me having english as my first language. However, At first I learned basic words with bad pronunciation. Now as a student, I speak english fairly well. I attend school and all my work is done in english. At home we spoke only spanish and with friends.

Food:

My childhood dinners were light. Dinner included salami, cheese, and egg.

Lunch in Dominican Republic is a very heavy and important meal. Dinners are usually light meals.

Education:

I went to school in the Dominican Republic. It is very different from here. We only spoke Spanish. Also, it was not full time; it was from 8:00am-12:00pm. It was near my house and all my friends that live near went to the same school.

Transportation:

There was a bus that transported the children from home to school. My dad used to drive me and my brother.

Celebration:

We celebrate All Dominicans holiday and birthdays with all the family.

Clothing:

I used to always have my little ponytails. My uniform clothes were long pants and a shirt. Most of my clothes were sent from here because my mom used to send me clothing and other necessities.

Comparison of Developments (Two childrens)

I choose to compare Amy, A young school Age and Penelope, a preschooler .

Cognitive:

They both love playing. They both use their thinking skills and build structures such as castles, mountains, and buildings with blocks. Penelope uses objects to explore her environment, she mostly plays with blocks and loves putting

them in her mouth, She enjoys taking the blocks out and rebuilding it again .

Amy loves going back and forth on the swing. She is capable of understanding different ways of playing. She plays close attention to everything around her.

Language: Both children speak only one language. They do speak english loud and clear. They both understand their color, object and other things around them and know their pronunciation. Amy understands and knows how to communicate with others. She knows well when something is not right around her and asks for help if needed. Penelope knows her colors, she loves making sounds. She also loves repeating after others especially when she hears it from the teacher.

Social Emotional: Both of the girls interact with others during the observation. Amy actually did not interact with others, only her dad and her sister. She asks for help for others. She understands when she needs to go somewhere else to ask for permission first. When she doesn't want others to do something for her she tells them "No." Penelope interacts with other peers, she plays with them and this helps her build her social skills.

Physical Development: Both of the girls are very active, they both run around and walk with good balance. They both sit without assistance. They are both capable of holding and carrying things. Amy muscles are very well developed and she is very strong since she holds herself strong to the pole to play. Penelope is developing her eye hand coordination by building blocks with her hands.

Activities Of Daily Living: They both are capable of dressing themselves, prepare snacks and choose their own clothing.

Setting Comparison (ALL 3 CHILDREN)

All three childrens were observed in different places. Samantha, A toddler was observed in her apartment. Penelope, A preschooler was observed at A Family Daycare and Amy was observed at Cuesta Park in Mountain View, CA.

All three of the girls had a lot of space to play and run around. Samantha and Penelope had many toys around them and everywhere in the room where they could engage in different activities. Adequate space allows them to strengthen and are able to build large muscles as they jump around and climb reaching to things and sitting. However, Amy had a different area in the playground where she was able to play and jump around. Samatha area was very quiet, she was the only child present at home. Penelope was with her classmates and children around her. Likewise with Amy, there were many children around the park playing and jumping around. Samantha and Amy are able to play and observe the environment outdoors, and the weather changes. Samantha enjoys looking out the window and Amy is taken to the park very often. The setting provides the children opportunities to experience many enriched activities.

Conclusion

I learned a lot from this commentary paper. I was able to see many different aspects of my own development and take a look back. I was able to see how childrens in different age groups can still engage in similar activities and their different skills. I learned that children speak at different communication levels and they are capable of understanding what an adult tells them especially when they are infants/toddlers. Also, giving children their own space but always keeping an eye on them can build trust and help them grow understanding more things around them. Knowledge is very important when you are working with kids and this has impacted me in a very positive way because I have learned new things, more than what I already knew.