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### **Teaching Beliefs**

As an infant/Toddler teacher, Working in Bright Horizons has showed me how to support the children and their families. We make sure to communicate with the parents so we can have a better form of understanding the child and the parent. This has taught me to support their development by forming more individualized group activities as we make connections with the child and the work they are doing. It is very important to keep a routine and show children encouragement as they explore different subjects/interests through this time. I believe that everyone has different technics on how they would implement reading, verbal communications and how the children process those things. Learning theorists and strategies could help me as an educator because I am still learning myself. As a theorist the strategies I would use would be to help the children process the way they think and how they retain or grasp the information that is given to them verbally or shown to them. By achieving this goal, I would communicate with families on different ways we can support the children and how we can help improve what needs to be improved on. Whether it is working with the child individually or in smaller groups as we help them reach their milestone and incorporating more language, social emotional, cognitive, and pretend play to get their minds going. My goal to guiding children is keeping a positive attitude by teaching them kindness and showing others respect. An observer would see

me interact with children and say that I am very nurturing and patient but I also talk to the children as if they were adults as we prepare them to transition to a different room. Since I was a little girl I have always wanted to be a teacher but I've also wanted to be a young mom which did not happen. I believe that everything happens for a reason and I think my passion for children and my upbringing has pushed me towards this career. I was an only child but I had a lot of cousins which I've even babysat including some of my neighbors kids which was really great because I always had that instinct mom connection and just knew what to do next. Everything felt very natural for me but when I was younger I was diagnosed with a learning disability. I always struggled in school because every subject was too hard for me and I always felt abandoned because no one wanted to help me so I had to help myself. I was told by a teacher that I would never be able to attend college or even have a career and that pushed me into being a teacher because I want to help those that did not help me. Learning helps you process the way you think and understand new information which can show you what you need to work on and what you have mastered. A successful learning experience looks like improvement on your thinking, understanding, and focus of the curriculum. Showing encouragement and collaborating with others to promote a successful educational experience. To me, A meaningful teaching experience looks like educators encouraging problem solving, supporting children's language, continue to be nurturing and practicing engagement. I consider this meaningful because this shows the children that we are hands on as we show active learning. The role I have as a teacher is to be inspiring and helping change the community today. A lot of children struggle in school because they don't have the right resources, but I am here to say that it is possible, and we can achieve everyone's goal. My attitude toward teaching

and learning has definitely changed over time by observing the children during every activity which has showed me how to better self-observe when taking anecdotal records of the children and looking for children who may possibly show signs of a disability at an early age. As an educator I think that I will continue to grow by furthering my education and making sure that I continue to inspire others as I learn more about myself along the way but most importantly I would like self reflect and take good criticism from others as I believe it will help me make different choices in being more aware of building powerful relationships with the children and their families. The more I interact with children and improve on how I strengthen those connections will help me be a better teacher and this will also help me be better at organizing activities for the children. After I receive my bachelors degree I would like to take a business course and get my masters so I can eventually open up my own day care so I can continue to accommodate for families and their children. We all know that there are a lot of young moms who work full time or may go to school full time and need the extra support so I would like to open up a center that opens from 7:30-6:30 to help support those who are doing it all alone or just need the extra support. I would like to present this to my director to see how she can help further my career and make this possible. By advocating as a teacher I would like to be nothing but supportive and making sure that I have someone I can confide in to help me along my journey. Overall I would like to thank my professor Jennifer Gilken for giving me this opportunity in learning more about myself and showing me how great I can be as an educator.