Developmental Context Reflection

The experiences that I have had that have facilitated my growth in understanding this learning objective have been the learning experiences I have had in my courses in Child Development. The environments that I have had the opportunity to observe and analyze in my previous internships support the well-being of children. Such as the site of Chico Community Children’s Center which was my was internship, and the Child Development Lab at Chico State have been two sites I have interned where they clearly support the growth, development and well-being of children.

 The one thing that I learned most about was learning in my Child Development courses how to set up an environment for children where they can have many opportunities to learn from. I learned about the different areas a pre-school classroom should have and how they should be placed to give the children space, privacy and concentration. A few of the areas a pre-school should have in their classroom should be a literacy area, blocks area, art area, science area, puzzle area, sensory area and so forth. It is also important to have in mind to set up the outside area with the same learning objective a child can have while indoors. Of all of the things learned in this area the one thing that fascinates me is going through different sites where the environment is set up for children and observing how each site is set up differently yet they focus on the same objectives. Every site uses different materials in many ways where I get ideas as well.

 Being a life-long learner I will continue to keep learning and continuing my education about Child Development to always be aware of any new happenings, strategies or ideas that can better support the development of children. What has been challenging for me, has been working in environments where there are challenging situations or behaviors with children. I have had practice in situations that are challenging and have felt more comfortable than when I first began, but they are situations that I am still working on.

 The assignment in one course, a parent conference was a document that documented my growth in the area of child assessment and study. In this assignment observed a teacher and a parent communicating about the child’s strengths and weaknesses. The teacher suggested ideas that the parent can do at home to the support and enrich the learning of the child and she also discussed ways that they assist and support the child’s learning in the school. This parent conference gave me the opportunity in learning how to communicate with parents about their child and coming up with ways of bettering their environment to support their learning.

 The next assignment was a writing assignment. In this assignment I wrote about children with a growth mindset and children with a fixed mindset. Children with a fixed mindset are those who is afraid of making mistakes and puts a minimal amount of effort into learning as to a child with a growth mindset is willing to learn regardless of mistakes made or not. I learned that it is important to motivate children whether it’s in the classroom or at home to challenge themselves and not give up, so that they could have the growth mindset and successful easier.