Behavior guidance

Student name: Kelly Dixon

Behavior observed: playing in drinking fountain

Child(ren) involved: Child A (name removed)

Name of adult(s) involved: Kelly

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| **DATE & TIME** | **CHILD’S NAME** | **ANTECEDENT**  **(What happened before?)** | **BEHAVIOR**  **(What did child do?)** | **CONSEQUENCE**  **(RESPONSE)**  **(What happened after?)** |
| Mon. Aug 22nd 10:30am | Child A | The drinking fountain was clogged and was overflowing with water, making it attracting to Child A. | Child A walked over to the drinking fountain and began using his hands to play in the water. | I walked over to Child A and said, “it looks like you want to play with water, come with me to the water table where we can play with water. The drinking fountain is for drinking water when we’re thirsty. Child A walked with me to the water table and began playing with the water toys. |

Analysis

In the Guides to Speech and Action the first guide says to, “State suggestions or directions in a positive rather than a negative form.” The outside drinking fountain is not a place for children to play with water; it’s for drinking only when the children are thirsty. When I noticed Child A was playing with the water in the drinking fountain because it was overflowing I redirected his behavior by telling him and showing him where he can play with water. I didn’t want Child A to think that water play is not ok because it is ok but there are areas specifically for water play. The Guides to Speech and Action state that, “a positive direction is less likely to rouse resistance.” Child A wasn’t upset because he was still able to participate in water play; I just showed him where he was supposed to play with water. If I had told him no, he may have gotten upset because it was something he really wanted to do. I was able to acknowledge his intentions and show him appropriate ways to express that intention. According to the Guides to Speech and Action this form of redirection, “makes help seem constructive rather than limiting.” I didn’t want to limit his choices by telling him no because he was simply just exploring the water which is also a good learning experience for him. By redirecting his water play to a different location he was still able to explore in the water.