Katie Howard

27 November 2011

Child 392

Self-Assessment Part IV

Section 1

 In the second self-reflection paper I gave myself four goals to work on for the rest of the semester in the Purple Room. One of those goals was becoming more comfortable with bathroom duties. I have worked through out the semester on this goal because I was a little nervous having to deal with diapers. I have no problem changing an infants diaper but it made me a little nervous changing diapers of preschoolers who were not potty trained. I worked on it by offering to help children in the bathroom. For example, I have volunteered to change Jay’s diaper and other times I have volunteered to be the potty teacher in the afternoon. Mainly, just reminding the children to check on their bodies. The second goal, which I set for myself, was giving children independence. I worked on this goal by encouraging children work on their self-help skills. For example, when working with children to put their shoes and socks on, I now encourage them the try on their own before I help.

 My third goal I set for myself was to focus on getting the children to actually sleep during naptime. Since I come at 12:15 I do not always work with the children during naptime. Many times I am cleaning the classroom and doing other duties in the class. Just recently have the main teachers focused on having me sit with the children at naptime and teacher Zack cleaning the classroom. This has given me more opportunities to learn how to make certain children fall a sleep, and what helps them. My last goal I set was mainly for the actual 392 class; which was keeping on track with my observation notes. This tremendously helped me for my second DRDP on Kailee. I went to the Purple Room prepared with which notes I needed to successfully complete my DRDP. It helped me keep on track with the class and not get rushed in the end.

I personally do not feel that I have mastered each objective; there are always ways I can improve my skills within the classroom. A new goal for my last few weeks in the Purple Room is to become more familiar with the different charts in the classroom; such as the incident chart. I have only needed to use it one time, but I was a little unsure how to fill it out so I had to ask Lisa a few questions. Another goal for me would be to help encourage children to share and take turns with materials in the classroom. Some children have difficulty sharing certain materials or toys; I can help provide the children with words or ideas as to how to share. For example we have the problem solving cards in the room, which give children ideas of how to problem solve and take turns.

Section 2

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is regarding a recommendation for Katie Howard for a position at your company. I have worked with Katie over the last semester at the Associated Students Child Development Laboratory at Chico State. Katie is an extremely hard worker; she comes to work and is prepared each day. She is extremely dependable, and she has never arrived to work late. Katie is also flexible in her position while at work; she has no problem taking direction from her superiors. She does not mind working on tasks around the classroom and she also has the abilities to be self-directed. For example, during naptime if most of the children in the class are a sleep she will find a task to do around the classroom without asking.

 Katie maintains a positive attitude while in the classroom, and appears to enjoy interacting with the children. Katie is calm and patient with the children. She speaks to them in a way that is respectful, clear, and understandable. Katie has been practicing techniques for handling challenging behaviors in the classroom, and uses redirection as needed when verbal reminders are proving ineffective. She knows how to properly use the guides to speech and action with the children. For example; giving the children a choice only when intended to and giving the child the minimum amount of help so the child has the maximum chance to grow in independence.

Katie has a good relationship with the other adults in the classroom. She is always willing and offers to do tasks around the classroom and respects her superiors within the class. Katie is open to feedback and suggestions, and appears eager to continue improving her skills. She is also able to communicate any questions or concerns she may have. Katie respects the confidential information of the children and families of the class.

 In the beginning of the semester Katie set a goal to; become more comfortable with tasks around the classroom and becoming accustomed to where materials are stored. This shows that she has the desire to learn new skills and responsibilities within the class. She does not hesitate to ask questions when she is unsure how to complete a task, or how to handle a situation with a child. She actively attends and participates in Monday night, Community of Learning and Practice meetings. She is able to apply the information she has learned when working with the children in the Purple Room. She follows all ethical and confidential guidelines set by the NAEYC and the Associated Students Child Development Laboratory. She has greatly grown over the semester, and has become extremely comfortable in all assets of the Purple Room. She is a great asset to have working in the Purple Room.

Sincerely;

Staff of the Purple Room