Child Profile Paper

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The child that I observed has a typical developmental profile for a kindergarten aged child. I observed this child over a series of days and throughout a variety of different locations. The locations that I observed this student in include, the playground, the lunch room, art class,

music class, and in their classroom. Throughout the series of days I noticed that his behavior was consistent in each location, other than during recess. This student is generally quiet when the teacher is talking and when they are doing independent work. I have also noticed that he is very polite and uses his manners when he is asking a question or when he is asking for something. For example, if he has a question or needs to tell the teacher something he always raises his hand and waits to be called on. I have noticed these behaviors in all locations that this student was observed in. One change in behavior that I noticed was when the student was out on the playground. This is when I saw the child become a little bit more vocal and like a typical 5-year-old boy, I saw rough housing with his friends. Both days I went out to the playground with the class, I saw this student with many different groups of friends and playing fairly with everyone. The one thing that stuck out to me was when one group that he was playing with started to break the playground rules, like go in to the trees, I saw him stop. Then he proceeded to look at the teacher who then told them to get out of the trees. Once his group of friends were out, he continued to play with them. I saw him do this several different times during the series of days that I observed him and after reading *Yardsticks* I can say that this is developmentally typically for a 5-year-old because they often seek adult approval. In conclusion, I observed that his behaviors and developmental profile seem typical for a kindergarten aged student.

The implications that come from the information that I’ve gathered are that for a kindergartner this student is on level and right on track. However, there does appear to be room for growth as he could grow out of his comfort zone and become more confident in himself. Based on the information that I gathered, I noticed that this student is very quiet and timid and I think that as a teacher, you need to try your hardest to have him step outside his comfort zone so he is not so timid with adults. Some of the behaviors or characteristics that the book *Yardsticks* pointed out that are typical for 5-year-olds is that they need permission from adults before they do anything. I noticed this a lot in my observations, before a transition he needs and looks for permission and approval. Another thing that is typical for 5-year-olds is short answer questions. When listening to him talk and talking with him a little bit, I notice that he is quite shy and he gave really short answers. Another key thing to keep in mind is that there are two developmental phases that 5-year-olds go through so remembering and knowing which stage he is in and how to apply that to his education. From what I observed I feel like that this student is in the second phase. This phase is experimental, oppositional behavior, and uncertainty. I saw this student uncertain on several different things he was doing and working on throughout the time I was observing him. I think for this student to be successful throughout his education it is important to know where he is developmentally and to help break him out of his shell so that he becomes more comfortable and not so timid.

Going back and reflecting on this observation I am satisfied with the length of my observation that I did and with the variety of locations that I observed the student in. However, I wish that I would have had one specific thing that I was observing or looking for. For instance, when I started this observation I just started jotting down things that stuck out to me, like their behaviors in different locations. It was difficult to notice things about this child because I was unsure of what exactly that I was looking for. Even though I was not looking for just one specific thing, I notice many unique things about this child. For example, I noticed that when he is with his friends he is very vocal and a little rowdy, and when he is in the classroom he is very timid and shy. The other thing that I noticed about this child is that he does not have one specific friend, or group of friends. During recess, I noticed that this child rotated among three or four different groups of friends, boys and girls and even students from other kindergarten classes than just his own. In the end, I was satisfied with the observation that I did, I just wish that I would have more specific in what I was looking for and I wish that I would have done an interview to get to know more about him.