

Peyton Whitley
CDEC 1354
Infancy Observation
11/14/2017

I. Findings

Jaxson enjoys being around other children, but also enjoys his solitude and alone play. He is in a house that has the front open foyer area, as a play place or room for all of his toys and learning equipment. He has a ball pit in the corner, with a basketball pit. In another corner, he has a hands-on kitchen and lots of kitchen tools and toys to go along with. He also gets to enjoy a large table for creative arts, and even received a new easel and all kinds of gifts for his birthday. Often, when I'm over and observing in the morning, Jaxson will be outside playing with his Dad whilst mom cleans up or does things inside to prepare him for his nap. Jaxson does well running around, and keeping up with his Dad, and is even able to kick a ball back and forth. He often stabilizes himself, then kicking one leg back and in a swift motion aligning his leg downwards with the ball to kick it. Jaxson climbs up the stairs to the doors stably now, by placing each foot alternating on the step that comes next slowly.

When inside, you can often find Jaxson at his easel scribbling lines and objects onto the board with a dry erase marker. He also enjoys building towers and creating things with his blocks or Legos. Jaxson often grabs the nuts or jars off the kitchen counter, and quickly trots into the play room to unscrew them and get into as much as he can before momma comes running through to grab them/it from him. He has found from watching other and peers walking in and out of the back door, how to turn the knob and now open and close the door himself. Upon walking in Jaxson will often come to give me a hug, recognizing soon who I am and saying "Pey." When spoken

to or given instruction, Jaxson often follows them and understands. Such as when daddy asks, “Jaxson put the water on top of the table,” he soon scoots over to place the water cup down with both hands.

Jaxson enjoys building forts and tents in the living room, and will crawl in and out or underneath the cover. Understanding when momma says, “Jaxson is hiding under the covers,” and he’ll soon pop out and play a game of peek-a-boo. He often giggles as he imitates behaviors or expressions of others. Making faces back and forth with dad or friends. Jaxson will repeat words stated, and then look around for affirmation or reassurance from others. He enjoys playing make believe and acting like an animal or playing house with peers or parents, often smiling and giggling with interaction. Jaxson will run up, if you set your phone down, and grab it and place it to his ear saying “hello.” Before his second birthday all he could do was say “I’m two.” He would then start to grab two items, and say “two.” During this play and observation when the child became tired or hungry/irritated, he would react negatively to major changes in his routine. Often becoming cranky and crying or pouting when tired. Jaxson knows how to express himself if upset and not receiving attention, by suddenly becoming distraught and frowning then throwing a tantrum to receive the attention he seeks.

II. Analysis

Jaxson is very well developed in all the domains due to his interaction with other children and peers/adults that are around him. He interacts with others smiling and joyfully as he enjoys the company of other children. Often having children his own age and older than him to play with, his language and cognitive skills are on the rise.

His mom being the most interactive with him, we see a strong bond and attachment that has formed between these two. His mass amounts of toys and utensils at his use and want in the play room, helps with his exploration and growth of development throughout play.

We see throughout his interactions with dad, such as kicking a ball or playing tag that his physical development is at a progressive positive rate. He can throw and kick a ball quite well, run without falling, and has a steady balance or center of gravity.

We see throughout class, that play can be a great base for the development and growth of a child, and in Jaxson's case we see this through and through. His play throughout the house, such as hide and seek or building tents and forts, helps his understanding in language and cognition as well. We see his understanding of in and out, or underneath and on top, as he listens and follows instruction or crawls in and out of said fort.

We also can see and observe that throughout play, Jaxson has an understanding of objects and object permanence. He enjoys to stack and build with blocks or Legos, and he notices if a toy or object is taken away or hidden. When acting up or wrongly with an object, said object will be taken away and hidden or place out of sight and Jaxson will stay persistent until distracted seeking said object. He also enjoy placing pieces of a puzzle together, or trying to group similar items together. We see how he lacks a positive attachment and bond from dad, as he is often unsure of how to respond or react as dad has a hard time regulating his emotions or responses. Often, Dad will respond intensely to scare or frighten Jaxson, thinking this will stop an action from happening in the future, yet as we learn this just confuses the child. Mom

often speaks to the child, explaining his wrong doings and why he can't act a certain way, when dad on the other hand just reacts.

Throughout, the only domain we really see a lack of, is the cognitive development. Not exactly having as many tools or toys to help Jaxson, he is falling a little behind with knowing his colors, objects, or shapes. These are things I believe though he is just starting to become familiar with, and learn so in time will hopefully expand on. We also see that since Mom often does many tasks for him, he lacks the skills to complete a task or fully develop the skills to complete a task on his own. When it comes to making a toy work, we often see Jaxson retreat to mom for assistance and help. Jaxson often has a negative response as well when he is told to do something, or required to do something that he doesn't want to do. Dad will often stick his ground, and make Jaxson do as he says or as he's supposed to. As Mom, likes to give in and doesn't want to hear her baby cry. This isn't helping with his cognitive and Social/Emotional development. Mom taking a step back, and letting her baby no longer be baby would help with this a lot.

III. Reflections

Throughout this assignment, I truly learned how play can shape and mold a child's developmental growth. Jaxson being a home taught/kept child, made me wonder how such learning and growth can still occur. That being one of the main reasons that I chose this child to observe for this assignment. I learned that through every interaction, whether it be at home with a parent or at school with a teacher, shapes and molds a child's thought and growth. What we read, and what we supply or what we make available and assessable to the child truly helps the exploration and

growth. Jaxson also having interaction with children his own age, and older truly helps his cognition and language development, as well as social/emotional skills. I truly enjoyed how his mom made sure that at least 2-3 times a week he was being active/interacting with other children.

I learned from this assignment as well, that our responses and reactions to a child can truly interfere with their cognitive/social/emotional development. Mom being the more active parent, and dad being the more unaware or dismissive parent, you can see the different interactions and reactions to each parents and situation. The child is often much more physically active and rambunctious when it's dad, and then more cognitive and language active when playing with mom. I found this very interesting as well, being able to see the different learning aspects, and learning domains throughout the different aspects and different settings.

Jaxson is a very well-played with, and very well-developed child throughout the spectrum. He has great interactions, and great tools and resources at home with him. I believe this is a huge role and key aspect of why he is doing so well. Having the play room full of toys and resources, two supporting parents, and then interacting with a mass group of peers and other children. He also has the freedom to explore and do what he wants, with the structure and rules that are needed at that age. Both parents actively speaking to him, gives him language advances or keeps him on track with his language development, which is a huge plus and a very positive aspect at home. The child is not often ignored, or spoken to.