

Brookhaven College
Cooperative Education
Seminar Summary

Student Name: Peyton

Date Completed: 11/17/18

Hours: 2 hours

Course: CDEC 2380

Training Type: Meeting

Workshop

Other: VIDEO

Name of Speaker, author, etc: Thinking Big. Hilltop Children's Center in Seattle, WA.

Purpose or Subject: Emergent Curriculum Projects

Sarah and Ann introduce us to the importance's of being both a keen observer and a skilled documenter. They open the video by giving the viewer some often found wrong thoughts or ideas of child care professionals and even themselves on this topic. Then leading into the more positive found research and techniques used in the classroom. The viewer is told a story of a project the did with the children that lasted many months. An emergent curriculum project, of height, that worked with the children to learn and complete developmental goals and learning throughout an extensive period of time. The height project began when children started to build high towers, not specifically with any structure but just for "power" became a battle/focus for height. Throughout careful observation by the teachers, they were able to build upon and guide the focus/project based upon the child's interest. It soon became field trips for step stools, where the children are learning emergent math, to field trips to a close by water tower. All of which was also documented by the children, creating the option for one graphic medium to another to represent and understand what the children were seeing. They give many good examples on how to observe and then build upon and create an emerging project within the classroom.

This video was truly eye opening to the good works and techniques of a skilled teacher or child care professional within the field on how to observe and create an emerging curriculum project. Often many of us are to focused on the schedule or timing of a created plan, instead of focusing on the children and the outcome. These two teachers gave many positive reinforcements and strategies on how to question the children if/when needed but mainly how to closely stand by and observe the interactions amongst the children. They gave me a true understanding of the word emergent, although obviously previously known the definition. This made me understand how to better and properly create an environment where an emergent curriculum is possible. Ann and Sarah showed ways to add different pieces to the environment to add to the curriculum and/or learning. Showing great examples along the way of how to observe and document different developmental themes, and most of all build upon them. This is very good for all child care professionals to know and learn, as this is super beneficial within the classroom. I like how they showed as well how to extend this into the community, how

you can see the different themes and domains being represented throughout. This would be very knowledgeable for any child care professional and is full of great skills.