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Week 1 - Dropbox Reflection

Consider the examples of shared control that are illustrated in this example. Summarize your reaction to them in one or two sentences.

Jace was able to join in the easy-to-join activity at his own pace. He was also observed “pounding his knees” like a giant which was a different way than children who were “clapping their knees.” Jace was following along with the movements being called out by Beth. He showed excitement by saying “Look, I can go really high” after she called out the movement to “Go high.” Beth acknowledges Jace’s actions by smiling. However, I would encourage Beth to also comment on Jace’s actions (Ex: I see Jace is pounding his knees like this, he said he is pretending to be a giant!). Overall, Jace was able to express ideas with peers and moved his body freely to join in Beth’s activity.

What do you currently do to share control with children?

Observe and listen to what children are saying throughout the day. I like to incorporate their interests in easy-to-join activities for large group. I feel this is a simple way to gather students on the carpet before carrying out a planned large group activity. When using props, I introduce and demonstrate how to safely use materials. Then, allow time for children to explore. As children explore, I make comments on children’s actions and mimic their use of materials. If children require more support, I refer students to one another to promote engagement. I also like to ask the children, “What else can we do?”.

What ideas for sharing control with children during large-group time would you would like to try?

As a coach, I am open to trying any suggested shared control strategies. I am also interested in problem-solving strategies during Large Group activities.

