

The students observed a wide range of age groups today, as the children ranged from age four to age twelve. After an hour of free play in the morning, groups were divided into ages four through six, seven through ten, and eleven through twelve. This student spent most of the day with children ages 7-10, so she will focus on that group for this reflective journal. These children would fit in the industry vs. inferiority stage of Erikson's psychosocial development (Ricci et al., 2021). Two examples of behavior that the student would expect in this age group are interactions with other children and increased activities outside the home. The student observed the children interacting with other children of all ages. Getting the children's attention was challenging due to their interest in talking to one another. The student also observed the children excited to be at summer camp. They were excited to get out of the house and see all the friends they had made.

The students aged seven through ten fit into the concrete operational stage of Piaget's cognitive development. In this age group, the student would expect to observe the children understand the concept of time and classify things by their commonalities. The student was able to observe both of these behaviors. After lunch and playtime in the classroom, the teacher gave the student the option to have an extra ten minutes of swim time if they cleaned the room nicely. The students understood that a clean room meant more time in the pool and worked together to gain that time. The student also observed the children learning about states, their capitals, and state abbreviations. The children could recall the previous day's lesson and group state capitals together that they had learned. Two examples of vocalization from this age group were children trying to repeat the Hawaiian words that the teacher was teaching them, and the students being able to read questions aloud.

While observing the children, the student noted a few potential health risks that are worth noting. First, the students have a habit of sharing each other's hats. Although the student did not

witness any of the children itching their heads, getting them into the habit of sharing hats with others could potentially spread lice if one of the children were affected. Another health risk the student observed was a possible fungal infection. Another long-term health risk that the student witnessed from only one of the children was that the child was walking and running on her toes. The student witnessed this child walk in this fashion all day long, which could potentially make her feet not correctly develop. Lastly, the student witnessed the children have poor hand hygiene after using the restroom. Although many tried to wash their hands, students should teach them the proper technique to help prevent the spread of infection.

A. Nursing diagnosis: Risk for infection related to improper handwashing as evidenced by children not correctly washing their hands after using the restroom.

B. Goal: Teach children of all ages proper handwashing or hand sanitizing techniques.

C. Intervention 1: If their motor skills have not developed enough to complete proper handwashing, escort them to the restroom to assist them or teach them to use hand sanitizing gel.

D. Intervention 2: Teach children to keep their hands away from their faces. When children touch their mouths, noses, or eyes with dirty hands, they can introduce bacteria into their bodies. This teaching will further help prevent the spread of infection.

E. Intervention 3: Encourage parents to use hand hygiene at home. By showing consistency with the child, they may be more likely to use their skills in public, preventing the spread of germs.

This student will be able to use the knowledge gained during the summer camp observation while interacting with children as a nurse. Recognizing improper development may be difficult if someone has not spent time around children. By seeing children of all ages interact in a group and by speaking to the children individually, this student has a better idea of what characteristics each age group is likely to show. This experience will influence nursing practice

by teaching nurses to interact with children more effectively and knowing warning signs of improper development. The skill of knowing these differences can impact both the parent's and child's life.