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NUR392C
Journal #1

This week was the first day of Pediatrics clinical. I expected to see chronically ill children and I knew that it was going to be tough seeing them hooked up to machines. To my surprise, I didn't see them differently, and I was filled with a nurturing love for them. I felt thankful to help in any sort of way. I was surprised to see that the hospital did not look like a hospital at all. Blythedale made it a point to look more inviting for the children and there were many colors. Even their school looked and smelled like a school. My patient was away at school for majority of my clinical, so I floated around to help my other classmates. I was able to give a bed bath for one patient and took vitals for another patient. I also observed an occupational therapy session for a different patient. The greatest challenge I had this week was getting around the hospital. The hospital is huge, and I am direction-deficient, so I must get used to it. Personally, I was a little sad that my patient did not want to be assessed, but I know that he would be happier in a school setting as opposed to a health care setting. I understand that many of these long-term patients just want a normal life outside of their illnesses. My greatest accomplishment was taking vitals on a 3-year-old patient. She was either afraid of my stethoscope or did not want to be bothered, but I was able to calm her down and take her blood pressure. She was also distracted by her mother's phone, which was a huge relief for me. I was also able to communicate with her mother and she voiced her concerns to me. I relayed them to the nurse in charge. I was not able to teach during clinical, so I hope that I can do so next week. Something I can improve on is being more assertive with how I care for the patient. I understand that I have to be extra careful because the children are in need of more delicate care, so sometimes I refrain from touching them. I do not want to let my fears of hurting them get in the way, because it can lead me to

compromise the quality of care they need. The Bible verse I chose for this week is from Romans 2:6- (ESV): “He will render to each one according to his works: to those who by patience in well-doing seek for glory and honor and immortality, he will give eternal life; but for those who are self-seeking and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, there will be wrath and fury.” I resonated with this because I felt like I needed resilience for this semester. I have oddly been feeling fatigued all the time. I know that I must finish strong, and this gives me strength to press onward.