

Ashley B. Rodriguez
Journal 4

My clinical experience this week was positive, like they all have been. I feel more confident with each passing week as we get closer to the end. It is always such a difference for me from the worst week with not knowing what to expect with clinicals especially with something like pediatrics or maternity, where the care is a little different from the standard med-surg care.

Working with children is an entirely different world and now actually being in the middle of it, it is something I am interested in and maybe hope to get a job in the future.

I did not see my nurse as much this clinical, due to the fact that she was running around, but I did spend most of my clinical with my patient which is a plus. I was able to give my patient medication, oral care, and take care of any other needs my patient needed. I also was able to follow my patient to school and assess him developmentally. My patient was a 19 year old male with a couple of medical complications that made his condition unique for a 19 year old and caused significant developmental delay. I was also able to observe the school for the children which of course is run a bit differently than a regular school. It was so touching to see how the kids are taught in an environment catered to them, but still able to have a normal childhood experience. They are able to go to school, but are taught and have an education tailored to them, get OT and PT services, and socialize with other kids. No matter what kind of disorder or delay a child has, socialization is needed. We as humans were not created to be alone and to ourselves, especially not children.

The verse that stuck with me throughout this clinical was Revelation 21:4, "He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there will be no more death or sorrow or crying or pain. All these things are gone forever." (NLT) As touching as it was to see the school catered for the children, it also

made my heart ache. It is always hard seeing sick kids, especially when the sickness is lifelong and hinders them from living a normal life. But there will come a day when sickness, pain, and tears no longer exist, the Lord will wipe all of them away.