

This week was the Pediatric Health fair. We were required to create presentations for the students based on topics selected by the school. My group mate and I presented on personal hygiene.

The greatest challenge I had during this clinical experience was how to honor the children who knew the answers to the questions, while creating space for children who may be more shy, but want to participate. Children can be sensitive, so if you acknowledge them or if you ask them to not answer anymore questions that can get kind of tricky.

The personal area in which I grew this week was maintaining patience with dealing with schedule changes. During the health fair, there were changes that took place that we weren't aware of; some even our professors were not aware of. For example, we were supposed to present to a group after 2:00 PM, so we went into the chapel area to prepare. We set everything up for the presentation, waited for 45 minutes, and nobody showed up. Apparently, there was a birthday party or something for one of the students, so they celebrated and then walked in right as it was time for the next group to present. That was something that challenged me to grow in my patience. Life in general involves change, so we must embrace every opportunity to grow in that area..

Spiritual growth that I noticed this week was a tenderness for school age children. I was given the opportunity to read a scripture and pray over the students. While I was reading the scripture, my heart just felt like it was full of God's love and care for those students. I have not been in an elementary school since the recent surge of school shootings. Hearing about it on the news is baffling. However, to understand that these children have still come to school every day after watching or hearing about other kids being hurt by someone with a gun baffles me even more. Yet, the feelings that I have towards school violence is in no comparison to the pain and tenderness God feels for these children and their families as they come to school just trusting Him every day for protection.

Professionally, I will be able to say that working in a school definitely added to my experience as a nurse. I have never worked in a pediatric setting with so many age ranges. I remember at my previous nursing school teaching preschoolers proper handwashing. However, this experience required us to teach, adapt and change the presentation each time depending on the age, class composition, their level of comprehension and engagement.

The skills I utilized the most were therapeutic and interpersonal communication and time management, which I believe were all demonstrated with competence.

If I could improve this clinical experience, I would have a meeting with teachers and the principal as to what is on the agenda for the day and a way to communicate if any last minute changes or emergencies occur.

My greatest accomplishment this week was I helped a little girl open her drink during lunchtime, and she blew me a kiss when it was time to get in line. Earning kids' trust is special, and I don't really know what I did to or for her, but she blew me a kiss of approval. Kids are awesome.

“He who dwells in the shelter of the most high will abide in the shadow of the almighty. I will say to the lord, my refuge and my Fortress, my God in whom I trust. Psalm 91:1-2”. This is the scripture that I read over the children in the morning assembly. Thinking about how the Lord

protects them, how his eyes are up on them, and that He is the safest place that they could ever be in brings so much comfort. This scripture just made me feel safe, and assured of their safety as God is their refuge and their Fortress.