NATURALISTIC OBSERVATION: EARLY CHILDHOOD BEHAVIOR OF THE MTP’S CUB PROGRAM

Name:

 Today you are going to make unobtrusive observations of children at play. It will be an informal observation of the Mountain Pointe Cub Program. **Please do not disturb the education of the cubs.**

Your assignment is to think about development theories discussed in the text and class lectures. You are to identify examples of Piaget, Erikson, or Kohlberg in the cubs’ behaviors. Only identifiable characteristic of the child should be their gender. There are 6 different kinds of social play that might be exhibited by the cubs which you will need to identify**…Unoccupied Play, Parallel Play, Association Play, Solitary Play, Onlooker Play, or Cooperative Play**. On the back of this sheet is the definition of different kinds of play. Record your observations on the chart below. You must record data for 9 cubbies (three from each theorist) and identify the activity they are doing. Remember to circulate around the room.

Focus your observations on the stage of the following developmental theorists. Complete the chart observing for behavior using each theorist.

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Theorists | Description of stage | Development Phenomenal |
| Jean Piaget | Preoperational *- Representing things with words and images but lacking logical reasoning* | * Pretend play
* Egocentrism
* Animism
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| Erik Erikson | Initiative vs. guilt - *Preschoolers learn to initiate tasks and carry out plans, or they feel guilty about efforts to be independent.* | * What is the social activity?
* Are they completing a task?
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| Lawrence Kohlberg | Pre-conventional | * Avoiding Punishment
* Satisfying Needs
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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Gender** | **Theorist’s Stage & Behavior****Select a theorist and identify the stage**  | **Social Play Exhibited****Use information on the REVERSE side to identify and describe the behavior being exhibited** |
| Ex | F | Piaget: Preoperational  | Solitary Play: Building a Tower |
| 1. |  |  |  |
| 2. |  |  |  |
| 3. |  |  |  |
| 4. |  |  |  |
| 5. |  |  |  |
| 6. |  |  |  |
| 7. |  |  |  |
| 8. |  |  |  |
| 9. |  |  |  |