

Marie Hui (Adrianna)

Thursday Parent Discussion

Parent Participation Preschool

Makiko Iwai

Student Assessment

September 2009

Are you prepared for earthquake? How has reading and discussing "Earthquake Preparedness Tip" and "Emergency Supplies Checklist" helped you prepared for earthquake? Please explain.

After I've read the whole checklist, I say, we're not at all. Sad to say but TRUE. But my kids know where ^{to} duck ^{how} cover. I've always told them when the shaking starts, go under our dining table which is sturdy enough to hold falling things, or under the bed since the mattress will cushion them temporarily, while I find a safe place to settle. I told my 6-year old son to follow instructions from his teacher ^{(if he's in school),} and never run away, because it will not keep him any safer. He might actually just worsen the condition.

The checklist and the discussion has awoken me that earthquake may strike anywhere and anytime. So it is best to always come prepared. I have started drafting our "Family Plan" - which will be applicable for everybody.


Student Assessment

October 2009

After reading and discussing child's "Speech and Language Development", "Social and Emotional Development", "Intellectual Stimulation", and "Training in Motor and Manipulative Skills" handouts, please identify at least two of your child's developmental stages and provide for an example for each.

1. Socially, Adrianna has learned to play cooperatively, though she still plays parallelly at times. She has grasped the concept of friendship and would play steadily with a familiar group of kids. She's open to meet new friends, and is always happy about it.

Her speech and language is age-appropriate, and I believe it's even beyond to that. She has learned the different kinds of emotions & can express herself well when she's sad, happy, mad, tired & sleepy, silly, loving & friendly.

2. ~~She~~ Adrianna has mastered her colors, shapes, numbers and counting by age 2. She sings her alphabets pretty well and we're still working on some letter identifications on lower case & a few more on the upper case. ~~But~~ And she has improved a lot. She enjoys books so much. She loves being read to & identify every objects visible on the page. She asks a lot. She has a love for MUSIC. She likes to sing and listen to songs. She plays the piano & ~~make~~ creates nice rhythm on her own. She has a very good fine motor skills that she can cut, color and starting to write. 

STUDENT ASSESSMENT

September 2009

Are you prepared for earthquake? How has reading and discussing "Earthquake Preparedness Tip" and "Emergency Supplies Checklist" helped you prepared for earthquake? Please explain.

Am I prepared for earthquake? Actually every time when I see an earthquake happened on news, I always think that I should do some preparations in advance to help my family through the disaster. But I don't have a concrete plan to know how to do and what to buy for having enough preparations. All I know is to keep the First aid kit, water, flashlight, and some batteries at home.

Therefore, when I read the handouts "Earthquake Preparedness Tip" and "Emergency Supplies Checklist", I realize that I still have many important things to prepare, such as stock up at least three-day supply of food, water, clothes, medical supplies for everyone in my family to get through the first 72 hours when an earthquake occurs. In case an emergency happened, I should have an evacuation plan with my family and have an out-of-state friend or relative to contact if separated during disaster. I should tell my children where the safest place in each room to stay and conduct earthquake drills with my family every six month. Not only this, I should know the locations of the nearest fire and police stations and to find out the city plans for emergency shelters and temporary medical centers incase of such a disaster.

To me, the most important thing on the checklist is to "Keep an extra pair of eyeglasses and house and car key on hand." I have serious nearsightedness. I cannot see anything without eyeglasses. After I read this article, I prepare one extra eyeglasses in my car and some disposable contact lenses in my purse right away. The next important thing is that "Make copies of vital family records and keep them in a safe container in another city or state." Indeed, I never think of this is such an important idea to reduce the inconvenient to prove identity in case an emergency occurs. "Take photos and videos of your valuables. Make copies and keep them in another city or state." is a very good idea to prevent the inconvenient of providing evidence to claim ownership.

Even though we always think it won't happen to us, there is a high probability that it will sooner or later. I grew up in Taiwan, where a small island encountered earthquakes and typhoons frequently. I have been through some earthquakes and a huge one 10 years ago. California is a place that a big earthquake might occur. This handouts remind me of taking preparations for earthquakes is a must and urgent. I believe we can be protected before the next one strikes, and we should do more preparations to add our safety and comfort during and after an earthquake.

STUDENT ASSESSMENT

October 2009

After reading and discussing child's "Speech and Language Development", "Social and Emotional Development", "Intellectual Stimulation", and Training in Motor and Manipulative Skills" handouts, please identify at least two of your child's developmental stages and provide for an example for each.

- Speech and Language Development

This handout gives us a concrete concept about what parents can do to improve children's speech and language development. It suggests that parents can talk to your child about everything. Children need a lot of verbal stimulation from infancy on. Your children will pick up most of their vocabulary from you. Listen to your child and use well-formed sentences instead of baby talk to expand on his language. Read to your child frequently. Talk about pictures and situations in books. Children learn new vocabulary, concepts, and the patterns of language from being reading to. This is exactly what I know about. In my experience, I start to talk and read to my children since their babyhood. I used those pictures books and taught them words in English. Though we speak Mandarin at home most of the time, my son's very first few words were in English. Therefore, I believe a better way to improve speech and language development is to keep practicing. What parents can do to help our children is to provide opportunity to let them practice, such as play games with your child, read to your child, use puppets to play hospitals, zoo, store, restaurant or airport with your child, take field trip, cook, do science experiments to provide new experiences.

When I read this handout, It says" It is very important to make language and speech fun for your child. Reinforce his attempts and praise him." This reminds me that when my son was 2-3 years old, he always hesitated in speech. He would repeat the first sound so many times that I even wonder it might influence his speech development. I just listened to him and let him finished what he wanted to say. Told him to take his time and to speak slowly. Fortunately, I found that he improved his speech because of encouragement and praise.

- Social and Emotional Development

Children develop social and emotional skills by doing, thinking, and watching. Through play, talking with people, and thinking about their own experiences, children forms ideas about how to act with and respond to others. This handout indicates that how children grow emotionally and socially in different stages and how you can respond to your child.

I have a 2 year- 9 month- old daughter and a 4year-10 month-old son. Each of them has different development at their age. Let's talk about my daughter first. She exhibits a distinct personality. She is very independent and stubborn. She wants to do everything on her own. She would like to eat on her own, to wear clothes and shoes by herself, and she can even change her own diaper when she just turned 2-year-old. Sometimes, I was in a hurried to run errands, and I put her in the car seat and tried to buckle seatbelt for her. However, she wants to do it by herself, and it makes me so annoyed. And then I find a way to compromise that I will buckle one side of seatbelt and leave another one for her. Gradually, I noticed that if I accept and acknowledge what she likes to do and respect her feelings, it would be easier for both of us.

Just as the handout says, my son is very energetic, curious, and excited about new experience at this age. He loves to play and talk with his friends. I notice that he knows our limits, but sometimes he still wants to challenge it to show that he is capable of and he is a separate, unique person. I always tell him that he is a big brother now and he should take care of his sister when we are out. He always holds his little sister's hand when I am not able to hold her. I will praise him and give him positive rewards if he behaves well.

- Intellectual Stimulation

As to children's intellectual stimulation, it illustrates some methods, such as to provides experiences and opportunities for the child to become familiar with the concepts of Counting, Rhyming, Beginning word sounds, Similarities and differences in sizes, Shapes and Colors. For example, In Ms. Makiko's class, she uses posters and different tools to teach young children basic knowledge that they should know before kindergarten. My children learn a lot of songs and rhymes from this parenting class. Best of all, they can memorize numbers, alphabets, months of the year....etc. through music and play. Next, it mentioned that help your child learn the joy of books. Read to him. Teach him to care for books. Take him to the library. Let him observe you reading, what you enjoy, to yourself. In my case, I like to take my

children to the library to borrow some children's books. They usually have a lot of different types of books. I let my children choose the books they like and read to them everyday. Ms Makiko also encourages us to use the library resources, and she used to take the class to Walnut Library for story time. Reading opens my children mind and develops their imaginations.

- Training in Motor and Manipulative Skills

“To help acquire control of large muscles provide practice and opportunities to run, climb, jump, dance and skip”. “Expose your child to equipment of various kinds: Balls, Tricycles, Wagons, Slides, and Swings.” In my opinion, I like to bring my children to the playground in the park. Every time they go to playground, they feel so excited and energetic. They will play slide, swings, ride a bicycle, or just running around. Another good choice to train my children's motor and manipulative skills is the circle time in mommy and me class. Ms. Edith uses different tools (bean bags, sticks, tunnels, balls...) and teaches children dancing to build children's mobile skills. My children have lots of fun during circle time.

“To develop manipulative skills and good eye-hand coordination provide experience with crayons, scissors, paste, blocks, hammer and nails, coloring books and puzzles.” My children have more chance to use scissors, crayons, and paste with glue because of attending mommy and me class. During craft time, Ms. Gale always has creative ideas to help us make beautiful artwork. My children love to color homework with crayons after class. Besides, I usually bring my children to Home Depot and Lowe's when there is free crafts for children. They will have chance to use hammer and nails through making interesting wooden crafts. I believe those are very good practice to enhance their manipulative skills.