Dear Mr. and Mrs. Lanoro,

It has been an absolute pleasure to have GXXX in out preschool lab this semester. Early in the semester I noticed that he enjoys manipulating things with his hands. On the 21st of June, I noticed that he enjoys using the tweezers and pinching the worms with them. Even though he did not want to hold a worm or touch the dirt, he stayed at that sensory bin for over 5 minutes just trying to pick up the same worms with the pair of tweezers. He scoops and pours items easily. I also noticed that GXXX cares about other children. Whenever another child cried, GXXX would look at them and then asked us what had happened. On a couple of occasions, he even wanted to do something to help them. While at preschool, he enjoyed playing in the sand and participating in gross motor activities.

During our home visit you told me that GXXX had never used scissors and we made that a goal for him to learn. At the beginning of preschool, I asked him if he wanted to cut the playdough. He shook his head yes and grabbed a pair of scissors. GXXX then looked at me as he tried rapidity to open the scissors with little to no success. I then modeled how to hold the scissors and he copied me. The next day in lab we had the scissors out with some paper and he practiced cutting with the scissors. Over time he continually worked to improve his fine motor skills and scissor skills. On June 12th he sat and cut paper for at least 10 minutes and on June 14th GXXX used a pair of scissors to cut a piece of paper into strips. GXXX enjoys using scissors and does it regularly in lab now.

Throughout preschool, GXXX participated in a wide variety of gross motor activities. However, he seemed cautious about joining play that involved a lot of running at the beginning of the semester. The first time that we had the jungle gym out, he needed a little bit of assistance getting across. He climbed up the ladder and walked across the beam just fine. The hard part, for GXXX, was getting from the ladder to the beam, but eventually he did it! GXXX does climb stairs easily. He will climb up to the slide and then go down the slide. Afterwards he will come up to one of us and say something like, “The slide was exciting, it was fantastic!” (6/21) and, “I went faster than…” (6/28). Also, on June 28th, I observed that he can run in a straight line and stop suddenly. Usually when he stops, he jumps. GXXX would start by one of the trees, run for a little way, stop, turn around, and run back to the tree. He did it several times. On June 5th GXXX pushed a shopping cart around the classroom for about ten minutes or more. He never put anything in the cart, just pushed it around. At times he would come over to me and look interested in what I was doing. I would ask him if he wanted to join. Then he would look at me say no and keep pushing his cart. GXXX is also good at using a hammer. On June 12th he was using a PVC pipe as a hammer, looked at me and said, “I could do this all day!” He had a big smile on his face. It has been a lot of fun to see how much more active GXXX has gotten from the beginning of preschool as he opened up.

At the beginning of the lab, GXXX did not speak a whole lot. He mainly spoke to us as teachers. However, when he did start speaking we were amazed at his vocabulary. On May 7th he was jumping on the Jump-a-roo outside and Miss Kendra started to sing, “Five Little Monkey.” GXXX recognized the song and told Miss Kendra that he has heard it before. Then on June 21 GXXX used words such as exciting and fantastic to describe his time playing on the slide. When GXXX talks, it is clear and easy to understand. It is a lot of fun talking to him because he likes to engage in conversation, has a lot to say, and uses words that we do expect to hear from a three-year-old.

It has been a joy to have GXXX in lab and to work with him. It has been fun to watch as he developed his fine motor skill to be able to use a pair a scissors. GXXX is not afraid to tell you what he does like or does not. When he likes an activity he will say things like, “I like this!”, “I want this!”, or, “That was fun can we do it again?” GXXX also really enjoys trying new things and is not afraid to try new things. It has been a delight having GXXX in preschool. Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to get to know your son and sharing him with us over the past three months.

Thanks,

Dara McAllister