

Peer Play

- A toddler consistently plays alone while others form small groups or pairs.

©Laura Friedman

Peer Play Possible Reason

- The child might feel unsure about new textures or materials.

©Laura Friedman

Peer Play Potential Solution

- Model and teach social entry skills, and pair the child with a buddy to facilitate interaction.

©Laura Friedman

©Laura Friedman

Sensory or Art Activities

- An infant is left out during sensory play because they do not show immediate interest or are hesitant to engage.

©Laura Friedman

Sensory or Art Activities Possible Reason

- The child might feel unsure about new textures or materials.

©Laura Friedman

Sensory or Art Activities Potential Solution

- Gently introduce the materials at the child's pace, demonstrating how to engage and providing encouragement.

©Laura Friedman

©Laura Friedman

Outdoor Play

- An infant is left out during sensory play because they do not show immediate interest or are hesitant to engage.

©Laura Friedman

Outdoor Play Possible Reason

- Differences in physical abilities or confidence levels might lead to unintentional exclusion by peers or staff.

©Laura Friedman

Outdoor Play Potential Solution

- Create inclusive games that cater to various abilities and ensure all children have opportunities to participate.

©Laura Friedman

©Laura Friedman

Story Time or Music Activities

- An infant or toddler is left out of story time or music because they have difficulty sitting still.

©Laura Friedman

Story Time or Music Activities Possible Reason

- Some children might have a higher need for movement and sensory input, making it hard for them to participate in stationary activities.

©Laura Friedman

Story Time or Music Activities Potential Solution

- Incorporate movement-based activities, or allow the child to engage from the periphery in a way that feels comfortable to them.

©Laura Friedman

©Laura Friedman

Transition Activities

- A toddler struggles with transitions and is often left behind when moving from one activity to another.

©Laura Friedman

Transition Activities Possible Reason

- The child may need extra time to process transitions or adapt to changes in routine.

©Laura Friedman

Transition Activities Potential Solution

- Use visual or auditory cues, individualized support, and positive reinforcement to help the child feel included during transitions.

©Laura Friedman

©Laura Friedman

Meal or Snack Times

- An infant is left out during communal snack time because they are not yet self-feeding or have dietary restrictions.

©Laura Friedman

Meal or Snack Times Possible Reason

- Staff might unintentionally focus more on children who are feeding themselves, overlooking those who need extra help.

©Laura Friedman

Meal or Snack Times Potential Solution

- Assign a caregiver to assist with feeding while ensuring the child is positioned where they can still engage with peers.

©Laura Friedman

©Laura Friedman

Group Play

- A toddler constantly avoids or is excluded from group activities like building blocks or circle time.

©Laura Friedman

Group Play Possible Reason

- The child might have trouble communicating, feel overwhelmed by group dynamics, or lack the necessary social skills to join in.

©Laura Friedman

Group Play Potential Solution

- Teachers can model inclusive play by inviting the child directly, providing language for social interactions, or creating smaller group activities that feel more approachable.

©Laura Friedman

©Laura Friedman