Observe: The Environment

Acts of Kindness

A learning environment rich in kindness is the foundation of what it takes to create a sense of community. The emotional climate of your family child care home will be dictated by your own behavior and the behaviors of the children in your care. In this activity, you will take time to observe the learning environment for acts of kindness.

An act of kindness can be big or small: helping clean up after an activity, listening to a friend, sharing a toy with a younger child. Acts of kindness take place each day. Take time to observe the learning environment in your home and take note of acts of kindness you observe. Use the form below to describe the acts of kindness.

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<th>Kindness Observed:</th>
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Structure and Safety

To have a sense of community, children need to feel safe and secure. This is achieved by providing children with structure and boundaries in an environment where they feel comfortable being themselves and taking risks. Use the form below to note details observed in the learning environment that are examples of:

- Children taking risks, such as trying something new or making a new friend
- Children being encouraged to share their feelings with you or other children
- Older children serving as leaders or models for the younger children
- Celebrations of diverse cultures and interests
- Precautions to prevent children from physical and emotional harm

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<th>Situation Observed</th>
<th>Example of community</th>
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