

Student 6: High Not Achieved

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During the special needs unit 2.9 we worked with kids from the disabled school down the road. My partner GL and I worked with MH who was 14. MH sometimes was a bit hard to work with at times as he did not enjoy doing physical things. Although MH loved Harry Potter and Lord of the Rings and Star Wars. MH did not like many physical activities but GL and I work out if we somehow related it to one of the 3 movies MH was very willing to participate. My aim with MH was to get him to try new things and participate in every activity we offered for him. I felt like I had achieved my goal with MH as we came to the end of the six sessions with him he was a lot more willing to try new things and activities. I was very happy with the progress that he made throughout the six sessions and I really enjoyed working with him. Our first session with MH we took him on a tour around the school. This was very helpful as it gave us time to get to know him as discover what he liked and what his hobbies were. From this I learnt that he is not a very active boy, but loved to watch movies and play video and computer games. We took him to the chess board which he was very interested in although he was unable to move the pieces himself he has very good communication skills to be able to tell myself or GL where he would like the pieces moved. During this lesson, we had planned to do some ball and hoop activities by getting him to roll the ball into the hoop and making a game of it for him. We thought this might be something he hadn't done before with him but this did not go to plan and he had limited use in his hands. During this lesson is when we discovered his love for Harry Potter, Star Wars and Lord of the Rings. So, after our game of chess with MH we took him to the tennis court where we found him a stick that looked like a Harry Potter wand. He loved this and acted out to GL and I many scenes from Harry Potter. MH quoted Harry Potter for a good twenty minutes. This started to get a little bit frustrating for GL and I as it was very hard to get a word in and ask if he wanted to try something new. I found this lesson a little bit challenging as he is not very willing to try new things and if I was to ask if he would like to do something majority of the time he would just reply no thanks.

Our second lesson with MH we paired up LP and her partner. At the very start of the lesson we played chess with MH and AS, once again MH related this game to Harry Potter pretending he was Ron and AS was Hermione. This was good fun for both of them as AS really enjoyed it and loved the fact that she was Hermione. After this game, we went by the gym and found an open area where we laid some cones down about 25 metres apart and got MH and AS to race each other and see who won. Although MH did not really understand this and decided to just go straight but I helped him with his chair and we managed to go between the cone. He really enjoyed this as it was something new and he got to do it with someone else. He really enjoyed this although he did lose but that was because he did not go when the buzzer went. I thought that this lesson went very well as we tried some new things and it was good having someone else in a wheel chair to help relate with time and join together in games and activities.

Our third lesson with MH was not there so GL and I had a 14-year-old boy NK. MH was a lot easier to work with as he was able to communicate with us very well whereas NK was not as capable to do so and would only say limited words such as car and more. We had previously planned a lesson for NK which involved a chess game and a treasure hunt along with some time on the school tramp. However, he was a lot less capable than MH so

we had to work around these issues. At the start of the lesson we took him for a walk around the school to get to know him but this proved to be very hard as he did not communicate very well with GL or me. Although we found out that his favourite things to do were to go fast on his wheel chair by GL and I pushing him fast and laying and resting on the tramp while we slowly bounced the tramp for him. Although he physically couldn't tell us he was enjoying this we could tell by the expression on his face and what he was doing with his voice. From NK care givers, we also discovered that he had been horse riding that day and loved riding horse. I really enjoyed working with him even though I found it more challenging than working with MH.