

ASSOCIAZIONE CONCA D'ORO ONLUS DIANA PROJECT – TRAINING TOOL

This is a scheme of how to describe and “read” a videotaped observation

ACTIONS	WAYS OF ACTIONS (use of time, space, posture, muscular tonus, gaze, voice)	HYPOTHESIS
<p>After transplanting onions Marco and Davide are standing with the water cans at their feet. They are looking at the educator who is video-taping.</p>	<p>They don't move, don't speak and look at the educator for about 2 minute. The educator is about 20 meters far and keeps silent.</p>	<p>1 – they don't know what to do next. That is, they are unable to connect in a logical and temporal sequence the actions of transplanting and watering even if they have the water cans at their feet and know the use of them. 2- they are waiting for a direction of what to do. There is an unspoken question. 3 -They are so used to be told what to do for each step that even if they know it, they don't act and wait.</p> <p>Comment: there is a big difference between hypothesis 1 and 3. The first one points out an incapacity (they are autistics), the third one points out their educational history.</p> <p>4- the educator keeps silent, that is, she doesn't answer to their unspoken question. She wants to understand if</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) They know what to do next (connecting transplanting, watering cans and watering) b) They are able to take a decision without being told (being actors not only executors). <p>In this way she puts them in a situation of problem solving. Comment: this is an example that an action is not necessarily “doing something”. Her silence is a communicative action.</p>
<p>Marco says: “Let's go”, takes his water can and starts watering the onions. Davide looks at Marco and starts watering too.</p>	<p>Marco's voice is loud enough to be heard by the educator. He waters moving from plant to plant, giving them about the same amount of water. Davide just pours the water</p>	<p>Marco's words mean that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 He has taken a decision 2 He has given a communicative meaning to the educator's silence and distance. That is he has asked himself: “What shall I do? What

	<p>without paying attention if he waters the plant or the soil.</p>	<p>does she want from me?” and has found an answer.</p> <p>3 He has solved the problem the educator put him in.</p> <p>4 The way he waters (carefully, from plant to plant – same amount of water) means that he knows his task.</p> <p>5- The fact that Davide starts watering after Marco means that he just imitates him, following his decision. The way he waters shows that his action is mechanical, he doesn't really know the aim of it. He imitates Marco overall but not the way he waters.</p>
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