

ready to line up to come inside another child fell and Emily F. then took that child inside to give her first aid. Ms. Junkins states they had a first aid fanny pack outside and she does not know why the child was brought inside. Ms. Junkins states all the children were brought in approximately thirty seconds after Emily F. brought the child in for first aid.

Ms. Junkins states she watched the video tapes from the incident. The children were on the blacktop play area, which does not have video cameras. She states she watched the video tape from the child's classroom and the classroom of the teacher who heard the child knocking on the door. She determined the child was left alone outside for seven and one-half minutes. Ms. Junkins states she called the mother the day of the incident and they were provided an incident report that same day. The mother described the child as a "wanderer" and said "you really have to keep an eye on him".

Ms. Kalkhoff and I then reviewed the video recording with Ms. Junkins. We observed the children come inside. A staff member could not be observed counting the children as they entered the room as required. The children then moved to circle time where Emily G. read them a story before lunch. Emily F. was setting up cots. A parent dropped off another child during this time. Nicole, a staff member from another classroom can then be observed leaving her classroom and bringing the missing child inside. She then took the child to the office. Ms. Junkins then brought the child to the room.

Ms. Junkins states when she brought the child to the classroom she told the teachers he was left outside. Emily G. said she counted the children and Ms. Junkins told her she did not count right. Ms. Junkins states she then told the teachers they needed to write her statement about what happened. She had the statements from both teachers by the end of the day. She also received a statement from Nicole.

Emily F.'s statement reads, "On Friday September 20th at 11:50 am I, Emily F., was inside making lunches when Emily G. sent (a child) in to get cleaned up because she had fallen and scraped her knees. I was putting Band-Aids on (the child) when the rest of the Giraffe classroom was being brought in by Emily G."

Emily G.'s statement reads, "On Friday September 20, at 11:50 I asked my three year old friends to line up so we could go inside and read a story before lunch. The children lined up. I told them to go inside because Emily F. was in the room getting lunch ready and cleaning (a child's) knees up. As the children walked inside I touched each one of their heads and counted 13."

Nicole's statement reads, "At around 11:55 on Friday 9/20 I was in the Zebra room standing near out bathroom door, which was open, when I heard a banging on the door that leads outside. When I went to open the door I found (the child) standing there by himself. At first I thought that maybe his whole class had been locked out and that he had just left the playground, but when I looked around the corner there wasn't anyone else outside. I then picked up (the child) and went inside, and as I did I could see that his class were all in their room and it looked like of the staff that were in there realized that they had a child missing. So, I then took (the child) up to the office to let Amy know what was going on."

On 09/25/13 Ms. Kalkhoff and I attempted a phone contact with Emily F. She did not answer and we received a recorded message that her voicemail was not set up.

On 09/25/13 Ms. Kalkhoff and I made a phone contact with Emily G. She agreed to talk with us. She reports her and Emily F. were outside with the children. She reports Emily F. went inside to get a sweatshirt and saw the lunch cart had been delivered. When she returned she said she was going to go get lunch ready and she returned to the room. She reports she knew they were out of ratio, but replied the other rooms do this also. She did not know of any rooms that had staff members bring children inside with them to get lunch ready so they would remain in ratio. She states she knows for sure the toddler room and possibly the two-year-old room send a staff member in to get lunch ready, leaving them out of ratio.

Emily G. states she was having the children line up to go inside and a child fell. She had a first-aid fanny pack, but it only had Band-Aids, so she had the child go inside to Emily F. to get her knees wiped off with water prior to putting on Band-Aids. She reports when the children went inside she counted the children by touching each one on the head and she counted thirteen children. She had counted the injured child as one of the thirteen. Emily G. states she counted again when they sat down to read the story. She counted thirteen children and it never "clicked" with her that there should have been fourteen because another child had arrived.

Emily G. states she does not know how the child was left outside. Emily G. states they typically are supposed to play in their assigned outside play area, but it had rained and the area is grassy and gets muddy so they decided to play on the blacktop.

Emily G. states she is not typically in this room and usually only covers breaks during nap or after nap. Emily F. is in the room more than she is so she went alone with what Emily F. said to do.

Emily G. was obviously remorseful and upset by the incident. She reports she knows it is serious and she feels awful.

On 09/26/13 Ms. Kalkhoff and I made a phone contact with Emily F. Emily F. states she was inside making lunch when Emily G. sent a child in to her who had fallen on the playground and needed to be cleaned up. Emily F. states that Emily G. and the other children came in almost immediately after this and she read them a story to "kill time" before lunch. Emily F. states she was preparing the cots for nap at this time. Emily F. states that Amy Junkins then brought the child in the room and informed them he had been found outside.

Emily F. states after Ms. Junkins left the room she and Emily G. tried to figure out when the child would have gotten outside. Emily F. states that Emily F. thought she was holding that child's hand when they came inside and she counted every single child, so they thought he slipped outside again. She was informed the child was left outside.

When asked about coming in and leaving Emily G. on the playground alone with all the children, Emily F. responded that she understood this was out of ratio, but they were not the only ones who do that. She reports, "Almost everyone does it." Emily F. states the lead teacher in the three-year-old room does this when she is present and so does the toddler room.

Emily F. states they used the blacktop area outside instead of their regular play area because it had rained the playground was wet.

Special Notes and Action Required:

109.10 (16). Supervision. Assigned staff, substitutes and volunteers shall provide careful supervision. VIOLATED. It was verified by a video recording and the teacher who found the child outside that a child was left outside unsupervised for approximately seven minutes.

109.8(2)-Ratio maintained in center as required by age. VIOLATED. One staff member in the classroom went inside to prepare lunch for the children and provided first-aid for a child. They knowingly left one staff member outside with thirteen three-year-old children. The ratio for this age group is one to eight.

I am requesting that administration has a meeting with staff members to go over the importance of counting and re-counting children that are in their care. I am also requesting that administration discuss with staff members that classes may NEVER be out of ratio. If teachers are currently leaving children out of ratio to prepare lunch or run any other errands (first-aid, running inside to grab sweatshirts, etc.) this must stop immediately. Because administration has the ability to monitor rooms and most outside areas, I would recommend monitoring classes during this period of time.

At this time, the status of the center's license is unchanged. I would like to thank the center for their cooperation. If you would like to respond to this report, please do so in writing and I will include the information in the licensing file.

Consultant's Signature:

Date:

09/27/2013

