Activity for Child Development Field Trip

Please respond to both questions in a 1-2 page typed and double-spaced paper.

- 1) Observe a child engaged in some type of play. Describe what he or she is doing and how long spent in each activity. Document the type of language used (and amount of language), fine motor skills, and attentional skills. Does the play lend itself to the development of certain cognitive, social, or physical skills? Within which level of play is the child functioning (refer to pg. 157 in text-sensorimotor, constructive, pretend, sociodramatic, or rule governed play)? How could a parent or teacher use these play activities to build or further develop certain skills? To what extent do the children demonstrate egocentric thinking, magical thinking, or other aspects of preoperational thinking (refer to ch. 6 in text).
 - 2) Observe 2 or more children interacting with one another. Describe their behavior and language. Do they appear to have certain preferences for some friends over others? Does their language demonstrate some characteristics of preoperational thinking, such as difficulties with perspective taking? Are there some children that appear more socially skilled, outgoing, and well adjusted than others? To what degree do you think that is an artifact of environment (i.e., home experiences) vs. genetics (i.e., temperament)?