

Social and Developmental History

School Social Work
Ilsia Bonilla
March 7, 2023

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Date of Interview: March 7, 2023

Person Interviewed: Jane Johnson

Client Name: Marcus Smith
Date of Birth: February 14, 2017
Address: 123 Apple Street
Dalton, GA 30720
Phone: (123) 456-7890
Mother's Name: Jane Johnson
Date of Birth: January 14, 1993
Father's Name: John Smith
Date of Birth: April 4, 1990
Sibling(s): None
Date of Birth: N/A

Presenting Situation/History

Marcus Smith is a 6-year-old black male who is currently in first (1) grade at Park Creek Elementary School. He lives with his mother, Jane Smith. He does not have any siblings. Marcus Smith has no communication with his father, John Smith. John Smith has been incarcerated since Jane Johnson was pregnant with Marcus. Jane and John have no communication with each other.

Reason for Referral

Marcus was referred to me today because his mother is concerned with his academic success. His mother has concerns with his behavior at home, communication between the school and parent, and having effective support. Mother stated that she struggles with Marcus's meltdowns and has trouble communicating with him. She mentioned how he sometimes has blank stares and feels like he does not understand her.

According to Marcus's teacher, Marcus fidgets a lot in class and gets easily frustrated with tasks. For example, Marcus was attempting to sharpen his pencil, but the point kept breaking. Marcus threw the pencil across the room and started to whine as he jumped up and down. It was hard to calm Marcus down after this tantrum. Teacher tried to give him another

writing utensil, but Marcus threw it across the room. Teacher managed to calm him down by having the class ignore him.

Psychosocial Needs

Marcus does not currently see a counselor for mental health or receives any medications. Mother, Jane Johnson, is open to setting him up with therapy.

Child Strengths/ Weaknesses

Mother and teacher expressed how Marcus takes advantage of his topics of interest. Marcus tends to only focus on things he loves. Marcus is more irritable on some days than others. Mother and teacher cannot pinpoint what causes this to happen. Mother and teacher identified Marcus's weakness to be sharing/playing with others and communication.

Educational Needs

Marcus Smith has only been to Dalton Heritage Head Start prior to attending Park Creek Elementary. Mother would like to request accommodations as he has a hard time focusing in class on subjects he does not like.

Health/ Child Development

During Jane Johnson's pregnancy with Marcus, she was diagnosed with gestational diabetes. There were no other complications mentioned. Marcus does not experience any vision or hearing problems. Marcus does not currently take any medications.

Marcus has some sensory sensitivity issues. Jane describes these issues are directly correlated with things such as Velcro straps, stiff clothing, and textures of food/drinks. Marcus's motor skills are generally normal, but he sometimes walks on his toes and only likes to eat with his hands or spoons.

Family Activities

Due to Jane's 12-hour shifts at the hospital, she has not been able to take Marcus out to the park or other fun activities. Marcus typically spends time playing on his iPad/tablet and watches YouTube videos or plays games.

Family Background

Jane Johnson and John Smith had an unstable relationship. Jane Johnson got pregnant with Marcus right before his father was incarcerated. Jane spent her entire pregnancy alone with no family support. Both paternal and maternal grandparents are not active in Marcus's or Jane's lives.

Recommendations

- Work with teacher to create a structured/predictable daily routine.
- Collaborate with the school occupational and speech therapist to build/modify classroom activities that can help Marcus develop/enhance his fine and gross motor skills, communication, and sensory integration.
- Schedule regular parent-teacher conferences to discuss progress, share insights, and create a plan of action for ongoing support.
- Encourage the school to implement positive reinforcement techniques within the classroom that can be applied at home. (Reward system like stickers, points)

***No other instruments were administered. An alias was used to maintain client confidentiality.**

Ilsia Bonilla
School Social Worker