**Concept of setting-based childcare and free play-based childcare**

**What is setting-based childcare**

Setting-based childcare is the practice of setting specific objectives or themes and planning and implementing childcare activities accordingly.

* Conduct childcare activities based on a specific theme or purpose.
* Develop programs tailored to children's growth and development.
* Provide diverse experiences and activities to stimulate children's interests and curiosity.
* Emphasize social skills, cooperation, communication, self-expression, and other aspects of social and relational development.
* Provide guidance on social norms, manners, rules, and other aspects of socialization.
* Respect individual differences and abilities of each child and provide personalized care.
* Emphasize collaboration with parents and families to support children's growth.

**Disadvantages of setting-based childcare**

* Programs based on themes and objectives may reduce the amount of free play time for children.
* Following programs and activities may hinder children's autonomy and creativity.
* Providers may experience increased workload trying to balance individualized care with progressing the program.
* Providers with knowledge and experience may be required to develop programs based on themes and objectives, making experienced childcare providers necessary.

**What is free play-based childcare**

Free play-based childcare is a method of childcare that emphasizes children's autonomy and creativity, allowing them to play and learn freely and grow at their own pace.

* Emphasize children's freedom to play, learn, and express themselves.
* Avoid external interference or guidance as much as possible and create an environment in which children can act independently.
* Encourage children to engage in play or activities they have chosen for themselves.
* Emphasize problem-solving, exchanging opinions, and cooperation through play.
* Provide flexible responses tailored to each child's growth and development.
* Create an environment that stimulates children's curiosity and desire to explore.
* Provide positive feedback to enhance children's self-esteem and self-affirmation.
* Provide support for children to express themselves and showcase their creativity.

**Disadvantages of free play-based childcare**

* Since children are playing freely, there is a possibility of dangerous behavior or conflict between children.
* Free play may not cover all areas of learning that are important for children.
* It may be difficult for providers to provide individualized care while observing and supervising children's activities.
* Providers may miss out on developmental or behavioral issues in individual children as they cannot follow up with each child individually.
* The purpose of free-play based childcare may be unclear, which can lead to confusion or a lack of direction.

**Proposal**

Create an environment where children can comfortably concentrate on playing.

For example, creating designated areas, separating desks, and ensuring that different play activities do not overlap.

Like Ms.Gayle does these days, it might also be a good idea to create a space where children can watch English-language anime or movies, both for the purpose of providing an opportunity to enjoy and experience English and for providing a relaxing break.

**Summary**

There is often debate about which is better between setting-based childcare and free-play based childcare but both methods have some advantages and disadvantages.

It may be difficult to conduct all childcare activities using a free-play based approach, but it is possible to incorporate free play-based childcare into a part of the day.

ELA, JLA and morning-closing circle are setting-based childcare and play time especially after lunch is free play-based childcare.

It is important to turn free time into a learning opportunity rather than just playtime.

Create an environment where children can choose their own preferred play activities and pursue their interests.