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Embracing diversity: A child minder's journey to creating an anti-racist environment

Impact ...

- Children now feel comfortable asking questions about differences
- They actively celebrate diversity among themselves
- The setting promotes empathy, compassion, and social-emotional development
- Children are developing skills to educate others about inclusivity
- The child minder has gained confidence in addressing difficult conversations
- The environment now actively promotes anti-racism for future generations

Background

In a small town in Wales, a registered child minder has transformed her setting into a beacon of inclusivity and anti-racism, demonstrating the power of continuous learning and open-mindedness in early years education.

What are they doing differently?

After completing the DARPL (Diversity and Anti-Racist Professional Learning) training, this child minder took proactive steps to create a more inclusive environment. She:

- Reassessed and diversified her resources, including books and toys
- Introduced skin tone pencils and authentic international dolls
- Created displays that celebrate diversity
- Introduced Tirion, a gender-neutral teddy bear with a cochlear implant
- Placed mirrors around the setting to develop children's sense of identity
- Engaged in open discussions about differences and inclusivity
- Implemented training to support social and emotional development

“The course opened my eyes to things I hadn't even considered before. Now, I've truly embedded anti-racist practices into my setting, and I'm proud to see the children confidently celebrating their differences and developing empathy for others.”

This case study highlights the power of professional development and the positive impact it can have on early years settings. By embracing anti-racist practices and promoting diversity, this child minder has created an environment where children can flourish, learn, and develop crucial skills for a more inclusive society.