Ages and Stages questionnaire assignment

The ages and stages questionnaire is a tool for families to do with their children; to acknowledge the developmental stages of their child's growth. For this assignment, I observed a child who has been in my care for the past ten months. His name is Beckett and he is 14 months old. Beckett is an only child, and the first born for both parents. Both mom and dad are hard workers, one a ER doctor, the other a top executive for Olympia entertainment.

Beckett came to our center around 6 months old, he had been in another care facility since he was 16 wks old. The care from his first center was not up to par with his parents and they were looking for a more interactive center for their infant; they were referred to us from a current family. Upon Beckett’s arrival we had our first observations of him; not overly suspicious but we did wonder where Beckett was developmentally. We allowed him freedom of movement in our room and followed his lead, and we started to see great change in him. Now Beckett is one of the oldest in our infant room, and is a well developed child. He is steady on his feet, we keep wondering when he was going to start walking and finally he did (of course); but that just shows us that it is on his time that he will do the things he needs to do. Him and the other oldest in our room, are very vocal; they enjoy competing with each other on who can be the loudest having fun.

Through this screening tool I was able to see where Beckett’s development is. I didn’t have any concerns before doing the screening and I don’t have any after either. I did have concerns with Beckett though when he first started with us. His motor skills were behind but his social cognition was present so we waited to see. The growth Beckett has made in the past 8 months is phenomenal. He continues to surprise me each day with all the new things he can do.
Suggestions I would have for Beckett after completing this screening tool, would be to continue doing what we’re doing for him. For his fine motor skills; we could continue working on the little things, having him stack blocks on more occasions, and presenting more stacking activities. His gross motor skills are there; he is walking, running, balancing all of those with his feet. We need to work on his other muscle movements though and allow those to other major muscles gain strength.

My overall impression of the screening tool is good. I believe it is a nice generalized questionnaire focusing on the key parts in development. I haven’t used this tool much before but I think it is good for all families to have something to look at to see where their child is in development. Some of the questions on the tool I knew the answers to because Beckett has been under my care for the past months, but during our assignment he wasn’t performing. The screening tool is basic, it focuses on the generalized parts of development and if you do have further concerns after the screening than it would be good to see a professional. On the other hand though this tool will not inform you of what could be missing in your child’s development. It is only a reference guide I feel just because the child cannot do a task does not mean he is deficient with their development.