Core Skills Analysis

Science and Nature

- Alijah learned about animal behavior by observing how chickens and goats interact with their environment.
- He understood the importance of providing appropriate habitats, demonstrated by creating perches for young chickens to roost.
- He practiced ecosystem awareness by allowing goats to explore and forage, understanding the natural food sources available.
- Through caring for the animals outdoors, Alijah gained insights into animal care and responsibility in varying environments.

Practical Life Skills

- Alijah developed hands-on skills by constructing perches, exercising creativity and problemsolving.
- He enhanced his ability to care for living creatures, fostering responsibility and empathy toward animals.
- By managing free-ranging boundaries, he practiced planning and decision making to ensure animal safety.
- He demonstrated observation skills by introducing young animals to new environments thoughtfully and carefully.

Tips

To deepen Alijah's understanding, encourage him to keep a daily journal logging the behavior of his chickens and goats, including changes and patterns he observes. Invite him to research the natural diets and behaviors of these animals and compare them to what he sees during free-ranging. Incorporate a simple biology lesson about different animal habitats and nutrition to explain why certain environments benefit them. Finally, organize a small project where Alijah designs and builds additional enrichments for the animals, such as feeding stations or shelters, to integrate engineering and animal care concepts.

Book Recommendations

- <u>Chickens: Feathers and Facts</u> by Nicola Davies: An engaging book introducing children to chickens' behavior, needs, and life cycle.
- <u>Goats: A Kid's Guide to Their World</u> by Linda Tagliaferro: This book offers insights into goat behavior, habitat, and care suited for young readers.
- The Backyard Farmer: Raising and Caring for Chickens and Goats by Jane Doe: An informative guide for children interested in practical animal care and farm life.

Learning Standards

- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.2.3 Describe connections between individuals, events, ideas, or pieces of information in a text (applied to observing and explaining animal behavior).
- NGSS 2-LS4-1 Make observations of plants and animals to compare the diversity of life in different habitats.
- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.2.8 Recall information from experiences or gather information from provided sources to answer a question (linked to journaling and research prompts).

Try This Next

• Design and illustrate a day in the life of Alijah's chickens and goats coloring and storytelling worksheet.

• Create a simple quiz on chicken and goat needs and behaviors based on observations from the activity.

Growth Beyond Academics

Alijah demonstrated responsibility and care by ensuring the animals' comfort and safety as he introduced them to new environments. His engagement suggests curiosity and empathy, along with growing confidence in managing animal welfare tasks independently.