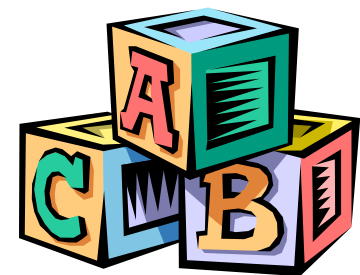


Role of Occupational Therapy With Infants, Toddlers, and Families in Early Intervention

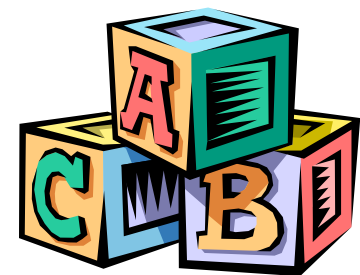


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Occupational therapy promotes function and engagement in daily habits and routines.

...the “occupation” of life skills...

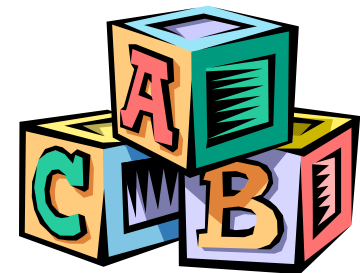


Areas of Occupation

- **Activities of Daily Living**
- **Rest and Sleep**
- **Work**
- **Play/Leisure**
- **Social Participation**
- **Education**



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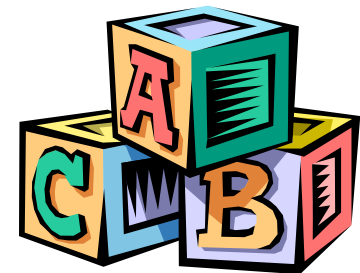


Occupational therapy practitioners offer early intervention services for children from birth to 3 years of age who:

- have developmental delay
- have a diagnosed disability that has a high likelihood of causing a developmental delay
- at the state's discretion, are at risk of developmental delay



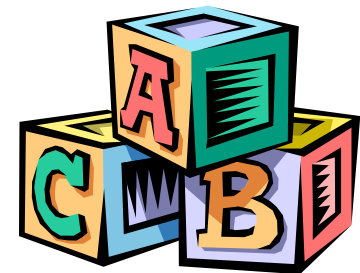
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Services can be offered in medical settings:

- NICU
- Pediatric outpatient center
- Hospital or clinic

Supported through private and other funding sources

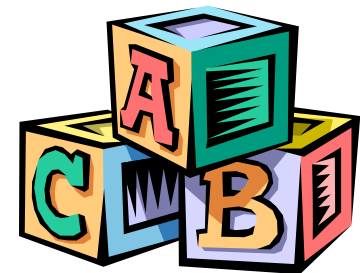


Early Intervention Services Under IDEA Part C

- Home
- Daycare
- Early Head Start
- Community Settings



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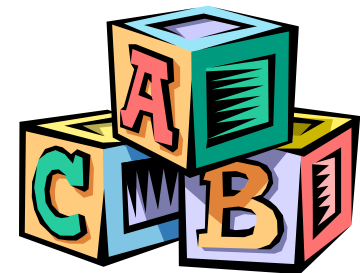


The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Part C

- **Make grants to states to assist each state to maintain and implement a statewide, comprehensive, coordinated, multidisciplinary, interagency system to provide early intervention services for infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families.**
- **Requires establishment of a lead agency in each state for the coordination of services.**



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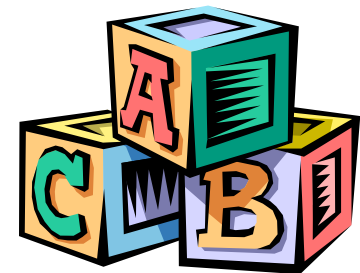
Early Intervention Services (§632(4))

Services include:

- family training, counseling, and home visits
- special instruction
- occupational therapy
- service coordination services
- early identification, screening, and assessment services
- assistive technology devices and assistive technology services
- are provided by qualified personnel
- are provided in natural environments – to the maximum extent possible – including the home and community settings in which children without disabilities participate
- are provided in conformity with an IFSP



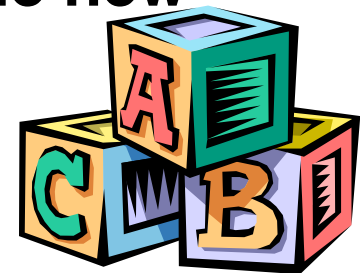
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Infant or Toddler with a Disability (§632(5))

Individuals under 3 years of age who need EI services due to:

- experiencing developmental delays, as measured by appropriate diagnostic instruments and procedures in one or more of five developmental areas
- has a diagnosed physical or mental condition that has a high probability of resulting in developmental delay
- May also include, at a state's discretion
 - at-risk infants and toddlers
 - certain preschool-age children under the new flexibility provision.



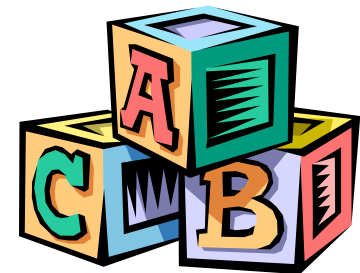
Key Part C Provisions

Early Intervention Services must address:

- physical development
- cognitive development
- communication development
- Social or emotional development
- adaptive development



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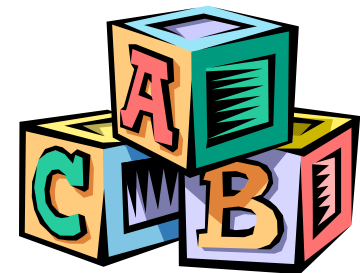


Role of Occupational Therapy

Occupational therapy is designated as a primary service under Part C of IDEA 2004 and specifically listed in the statute.

Occupational therapy practitioners may be a service coordinator as well as a service provider.

IDEA 2004 (Public Law 108-446)

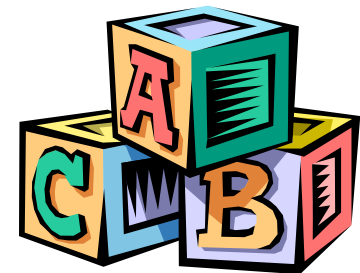


Role of Occupational Therapy

Practitioners team to build the family's capacity to care for their child and promote their growth and development in natural environments where families live, work, and play.

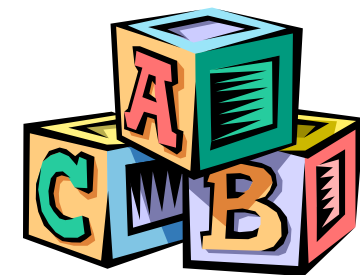


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Occupational Therapy Process

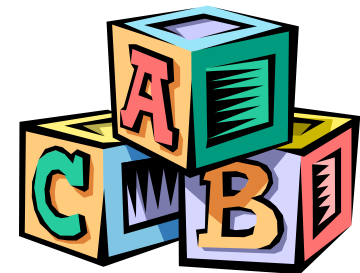
- **Evaluation**
 - Screenings
 - Formal and informal assessments
 - Parent/family interview
 - Collaboration with family & team
- **Intervention**
 - Collaboration with family & team
 - Develop Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP)
 - Incorporate evidence-based practice
- **Outcomes**
 - Promote function
 - Meet family and child's goals & needs



Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP)

Emphasis:

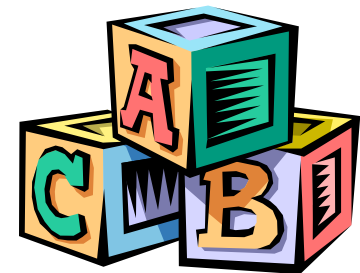
- Team approach
- Family/child centered
- Natural environments
- Multidisciplinary



Occupational therapy practitioners respect the unique interests, culture, needs, and priorities of the child and family and build on their strengths and abilities.

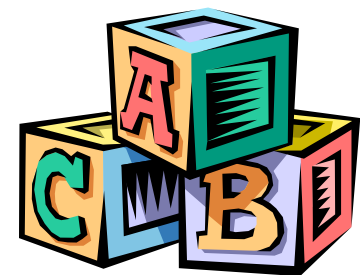


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Occupational Therapy Practitioners in Action

Occupational therapy practitioners support children and families to be successful in their everyday routines.



Participation in Play Time

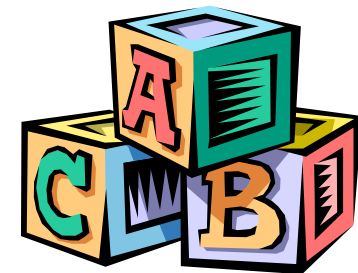
- **Increase social skills**
- **Advance motor coordination**
- **Develop problem-solving abilities**



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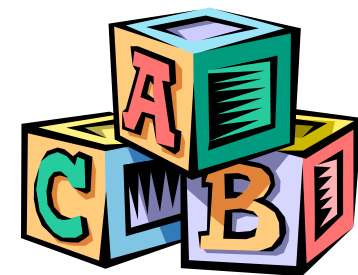


Participation in Meal Time

- **Promote independence in self-feeding**
- **Improve ability to eat a variety of foods and textures**
- **Create family-friendly schedules**



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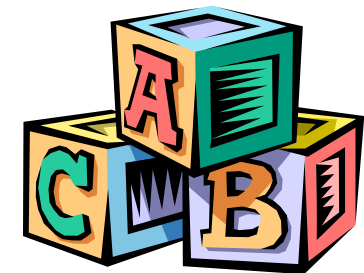


Participation in Bath Time

- Address positioning needs
- Ensure safety during activities of daily living
- Promote sensory-rich experiences

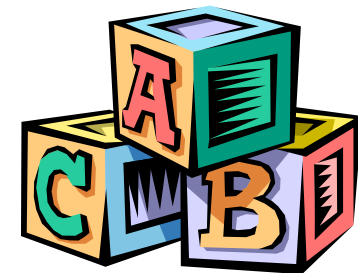


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Social Participation

- **Manage emotions**
- **Develop self-advocacy skills**
- **Strengthen family bonds**

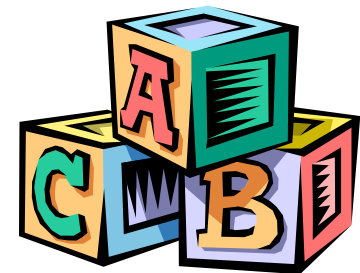


Occupational Therapy Practitioners in Action

**They provide service in
a variety of settings including:**



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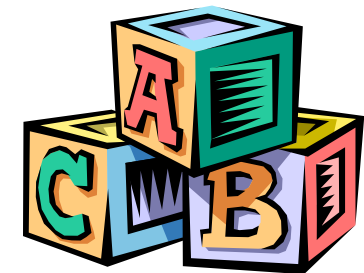


Daycare

- **Facilitate peer interaction**
- **Coach daycare providers**
- **Promote play skills**



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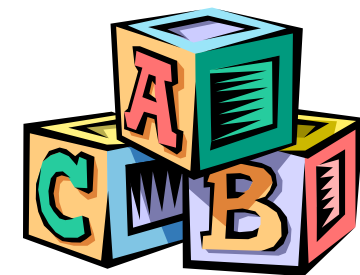


Home

- Establish healthy sleep/nap schedules
- Design safe play areas
- Support family caretaking abilities



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Community

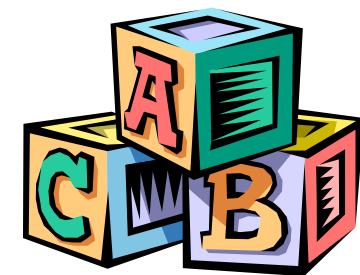
- Promote safe transportation
- Increase ease in transitions
- Facilitate participation in community activities



Occupational therapy practitioners support and build the capacity of the family to care for their child



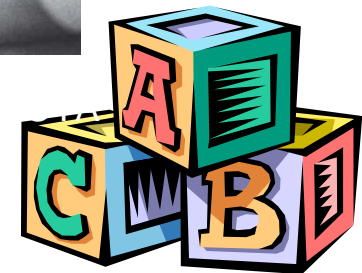
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Occupational Therapy practitioners modify activities or the environment so the child can participate



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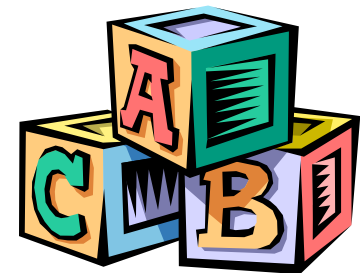


How can we help you?

- **Direct Service**
- **Service Coordination**
- **Consultation**
- **Education/Training**



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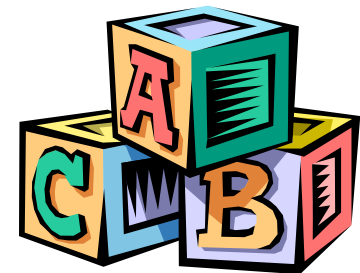


**To learn more, contact the
American Occupational Therapy Association**

www.aota.org

301-652-AOTA (2682)

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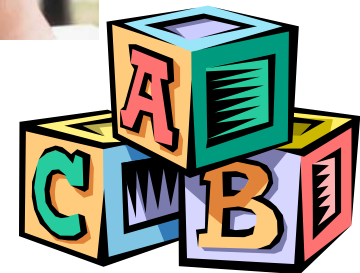


Occupational Therapy

Living Life to Its Fullest



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References and Resources

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<http://www.nectac.org>

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<http://www.aota.org/Consumers/FactSheets/Children/39482.aspx>

3. Transitions for Children and Youth

<http://www.aota.org/Consumers/FactSheets/Children/Transitions.aspx>

4. Addressing Sensory integration Across the Lifespan

<http://www.aota.org/Consumers/FactSheets/Children/Fact-Sheet.aspx>

5. Occupational Therapy in Preschool Settings

<http://www.aota.org/Consumers/FactSheets/School/39475.aspx>



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