

Developmental Disability User Guide: A Survival Manual for Parents, Caregivers, Children, and Adolescents

Project Overview

You will create a resource guide to be used by parents or caregivers of children with disabilities, or for adolescents with disabilities. The guide should provide understandable and relevant information to non-OT parents, caregivers, or individuals regarding how to enable function, facilitate development, or to pursue common goals within home, play/social, and school environments. You will provide information regarding effective remedial, compensatory, and support strategies, as well as available community and assistive resources.

The final project will be typewritten in a bound book format, or digital format using web development software (i.e. Weebly). Text, images, and hyperlinks (in the case of website) should be neatly integrated. For a book format you will include a table of contents as well as reference page at the end (in addition to parenthetical citations throughout using proper format). For a website, you should create a welcome page and page tabs that provide essentially the same information as a table of contents, and a reference page that summarizes all sources cited throughout your website.

The end product should be of high quality in content and presentation.

Detailed Instructions for Each Section:

1. Cover Page (or welcome web page).

Should be neat, attractive and informative. It should include a title, names of the authors, and the date of "publication".

2. Table of Contents.

Include a descriptive title and page number for the following sections (see below). For websites, the welcome page and tabs should provide easy and informative links to the various web pages.

3. Typical Development- Milestones, role expectations, and transitional issues that parents, caregivers, and individuals should be aware of.

Your guide will focus on one developmental stage as assigned (i.e.: early childhood, middle childhood, or adolescence, etc). Provide a clear description of typical ("normal") development (what a child is able to do/perform at the various ages). Be sure to explain why it is helpful for caregivers/parents to understand "typical" development. This information should be based on current authoritative sources. **Be sure to include parenthetical citations using APA style.**

4. Impact of Disability- How disability delays development and function.

This section should explain how your selected disability may delay or otherwise impact typical development. Essentially, you must describe what functional and developmental issues are to be anticipated during the selected developmental period. In “layperson’s terms, you should explain how *performance in areas of occupation, performance skills, performance patterns, client factors*, and overall development are impacted or delayed as a result of the diagnosis. Your description should be written clearly so that individuals with no background in the areas of disabilities, rehabilitation, and OT can understand how the disability may change or challenge development. Therefore, you will need to clarify any terms that are unfamiliar to the non-professional. Your description should be based on current authoritative sources. **Be sure to include parenthetical citations using APA style.**

5. Effective compensatory devices and accommodations to enable age-appropriate performance in areas of occupation.

Based on the typical role expectations, and environmental/activity demands, thoroughly present at least **5** appropriate assistive devices (10 if working with a partner) that would effectively enable a child or adolescent with your assigned disability and age-range to successfully accomplish tasks that are consistent with his/her role demands, environmental expectations, and performance areas of occupation. For each device, include:

- **Deficit:** Explain the deficit being addressed.
- **Goal/Outcome:** Have a clearly stated therapeutic objective/goal (i.e. outcome of improved function and/or specific performance skill or client factors that are addressed by this activity).
- **Description:** A thorough description of the device including
 - Picture(s) of the device
 - Price
 - Where the device can be purchased
 - For devices that can be made (rather than purchased), provide clear instructions and supply list.
- **Principle:** An explanation of how the device compensates for specific client factors or performance skill deficits.

6. Effective remedial activities to develop/improve deficit performance skills and client factors.

Thoroughly describe at least **5** unique and appropriate activities (10 if working with a partner), including games, tasks, crafts, and other interventions that could be carried over from OT therapy sessions into home or school environments to supplement OT clinic treatment. Similar to treatment planning, these activities should:

- **Deficit:** Explain the deficit being addressed.
- **Goal:** Have clearly stated therapeutic objective/goal (i.e. specifies performance skill or client factors that are addressed by this activity).
- **Principle:** Briefly explain the model, frames-of-reference, or principle to support the relevance and effectiveness of your activity in a way that is understandable to

a “layperson” (utilize OT principles or theories presented in class or found in textbooks)

- **Method:** Explain how the activity should be set up and engaged. It is important to describe such details as the tools/supplies, positioning of objects, positioning of the child relative to the activity, positioning of the parent/caregiver, time, sequencing, repetitions, etc. (diagrams may be helpful).
- **Grading:** Explain how the activity can be graded up and down to address the specified performance skills or client factors.
- **Be sure to include parenthetical citations using APA style.**

7. A comprehensive list of services and community resources available to support and enhance the quality of life for the child or adolescent with a disability as well as parents in their role as caregivers.

You should provide:

- Program names and addresses
- Thorough descriptions of services, specifying areas of occupation that are addressed (and client factors, performance skills, performance patterns, contexts/environments, if applicable).
- You may also include services that address needs of parents/caregivers (i.e. support, advocacy, networking, respite, etc.).
- Eligibility criteria, costs
- Contact information (contact person, phone number, website, email).

Your list should contain at least **5** unique services (10 if working with a partner).

8. Reference Page(s).

Using APA style, provide an accurate listing of all references used in your research. All sources cited parenthetically should appear on your reference page. References must be from reliable sources. Throughout your project you should **support ALL of your descriptions, interventions, and strategies with appropriate, parenthetical citations**. Recommendations for remedial strategies must be supported by references to research recognized by the occupational therapy profession.

NOTE: An “A” project must show evidence of going above and beyond these specifications.