



Sensory Integrative Principals

The Occupational Therapists at the Child Success Center utilize Sensory Integrative Principals when helping your child play and learn successfully. These Principals are:

- Introducing **controlled sensory experiences** (swinging, climbing, crashing, touching, listening, looking) based upon your child's needs
- Helping your child to become an **active participant** through out the session.
- All interaction is perceived as **play** for your child, as play is the essential way your child learns.
- The **inner drive** of your child guides the activity selected.
- The therapist will make your **child's choices therapeutic**, meeting their goals and achieving long-term success.
- The **environment** at the center is unique in its ability to provide play activities rich in tactile (touch) proprioceptive and vestibular (balance and movement) opportunities.
- Your therapist will grade (**slowly increase the challenge**) the complexity of the sensory motor activity to provide the "just right challenge".
- The "**just right challenge**" is the point that provides challenge with a successful outcome.
- Your therapist will balance between providing **structure and freedom** in play for your child to grow and learn.
- All activities will be chosen with the goal to elicit an "**adaptive response**" (a purposeful, goal directed, successful attempt to master a challenge in the environment).
- The environment at the center is "**safe**" physically and emotionally.
- Your therapist will be vigilant and scaffold your child's interactions to ensure a **successful relationship**.

Our therapists utilize these principals when working with your children. The focus of occupational therapy is to help your children successfully engage in play and learning. Therapy may focus on skill building; improving large and small motor skills to help your child successfully climb, color, cut, learn to write etc, increase his/her ability to focus and attend, improve play and social skills, and support all areas of visual processing for example to discriminate between a b/d and copy and write letters and number successfully.

Sensory Processing takes place on the unconscious level. The brain stores, sorts, and compares incoming information from play and learning experiences. This information allows us to move, express feelings, build self-esteem, learn, interact with the environment and others and attend to a task.

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