

Teaching Students How to Define Occupational Therapy to the Public and Peers Using A Constructivist Model

The profession of occupational therapy is often less understood than our counterparts in the rehabilitation and healthcare fields. Students have great difficulty defining and explaining the occupational therapy even though they have identified it as their chosen field. They are often able to articulate basic premises of occupational therapy, but struggle with explaining occupational therapy in a manner that is relatable and understandable to the general public and other healthcare professionals. The American Occupational Therapy Association provides a great deal of information to help students and practitioners promote the profession. Despite the resources, students continue to struggle with this task. The proposed project intends to provide students with a framework to explain occupational therapy to any audience that is based on a constructivist model of learning. Students will learn how that explaining occupational therapy using this framework is a dynamic exchange that engages the learner. Students will identify the learner's context, build on his/her current knowledge and offer additional information as the learner understands.

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