

OTA Student Community Involvement

Blue River Healthcare Nursing Home, Tishomingo Oklahoma

Nursing Home Encounter

Students engage with nursing home residents at Blue River Healthcare by creating an activity that can be modified as needed to be client centered. Students begin use of therapeutic use of self while engaging residents in meaningful occupation.

Exercise Group

Students practice modifying exercise techniques with nursing home residents at Blue River Healthcare by creating a basic exercise with various predetermine modifications. Students are expected to modify the exercise as indicated by the residents' strengths and weaknesses.

Tishomingo Elementary School, Tishomingo, Oklahoma

Pediatric Motor Lab

Students create a motor lab using the Ready Body Learning Minds program, for the 3rd graders at Tishomingo Elementary school. Student set up the lab during the PE course and the 3rd grade students rotate through each lab station to address sensory, motor and coordination deficits to assist with focus and functioning in the classroom. Booklets of activities are provided to 3rd grade teachers.

Pre-school Pre-Graphic and Fine Motor Activity Groups

Students create a fine motor activity sequence for a small group of pre-school students at Tishomingo Elementary school. Students create activities that are age appropriate and address in-hand manipulation, fine motor coordination,

strengthening or visual-motor skills and must be prepared to modify the activities as needed based on pre-school student needs and development. Booklets of activities are provided to pre-school teachers.

Schools within the MSC Community Area

Jell-O Jamboree

Jell-O Jam is a community project held by the Occupational Therapy Assistant Students in the spring of each year, at an elementary school in the community that Murray State College serves. The activities must contain Jell-O as their primary medium.

The Occupational Therapy Assistant Students research potential Jell-O activities for elementary age children, organize a lively 2-hour program, and collect the materials needed to complete the activities. On the day of the event, the students set up at the elementary school and conduct the Jell-O Jam with the elementary students. FUN is had by ALL!

Backpack Awareness

The Backpack Safety Awareness campaign is sponsored by the American Occupational Therapy Association, for the prevention of pain and injury due to heavy backpacks. Murray State College School's Occupational Therapy Assistant program (OTA) participates each year in the campaign to promote backpack safety with students in the community that Murray State College serves.

The OTA students are divided into small groups and seek out an elementary school setting in the Murray State College's community. The OTA students contact the school and seek permission to conduct a Backpack Safety Awareness program for their school. The students develop and present an age appropriate program educating on how to pack, wear and what the safe weight recommendations are for each back pack, based on the individual student. Additionally, information is sent home with the student to assist their parents in helping their child maintain safe backpack etiquette.

Johnston County Health Department

Diabetic Conference

Each Spring, the Johnston County Health Department hosts a Diabetic Conference for those in the community that either have diabetes or are a caregiver for those with diabetes. The conference is held at Murray State College and the Occupational Therapy Assistant (OTA) Students assist with the conference in a variety of ways.

- They host a break-out session regarding occupational therapy and diabetes, in which they research a specific topic and put together a presentation.
- The OTA Students also provide a setting for the younger attendees which includes age appropriate activities highlighting diabetic safety, including good nutrition.
- The Student Occupational Therapy Association (SOTA), a pre-professional student organization, assists with the vendor portion of the conference by hosting a table and by assisting with the set-up of the vendors.
- The OTA students assist by serving as hosts to the presenters in the break-out sessions.