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Montessori Home Engagement Course

Module 2: Activity



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Slide 2

Montessori Engagement Recap



- Grace and Courtesy
- Activity that is
 - Practical
 - Independent as possible
 - Engaging
- Prepared environment


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Recap: Grace and Courtesy

In the zone...

- Of touch
- Of level
- Of tone



Observation is

in Montessori

Listening...

- With open ears and posture
- Without distraction
- With calm patience

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Grace and Courtesy: Your Stories



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Activities

We are:

- always developing
- part of the natural world
- spiritual and physical
- defined by our strengths



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Activities and Meaning

What brings meaning to life?



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Activity Engagement



Life Roles

- Maintain
- Redefine
- Create New

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Activity Engagement



For the person who is alert and oriented:

- Daily schedule
- Fully involved
- Engages with others

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Activity Engagement




- Independent pursuits
- Dedicating time to independent pursuits

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Activity Engagement



- Independent ability declines
- Need more time to process
- Engagement shown through non-verbal expressions

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Activity Engagement



Responding meaningfully within the moment:


- Eye Contact
- Smiles
- Relaxed Demeanor

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Principles of Montessori Activity

- Maximize movement and manipulation
- Purposeful and meaningful
- Independent as possible
- Engaging




to the client!

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Montessori Caregivers...



...and prepare the environment

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Observe



Source: Reality Executive Associates

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Observe: Ask

Ask the client, family and other caregivers questions that...

- Are engaging themselves
- Can give you insights into what might engage them the most

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Observe: SEE

- Strengths the client has
- With Each sense
 - Sights
 - Sounds
 - Touch/Textures
 - Smell
 - Taste
- Engagement on or off cues: verbal and non-verbal
 - Making eye contact, or falling asleep
 - Hand or foot movements, or wandering off
 - Participating, or disrupting

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Observe: Practice 1

Highly Verbal Person:

1. Were you born in this area?
2. How long have you lived here?
3. How big was your family? Brothers? Sisters?
4. What do you like to do when you have time?
 1. Do you like to read magazines or books?
 2. Do you like sports?
 3. I like baseball.
5. Do you have children or grandchildren?
6. What do you like to do with your children?

What might these answers tell you about activities that could engage your client?

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Observe: Practice 2

- May I ask you about yourself?
- Do you like to go outside? Taking walks?
- Do you like flowers? Cats? Dogs?
- Do you like to read or have stories?
- Do you like tea? Coffee? Cookies?

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Observe: Practice 3



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Observation: Debrief

- Questions?
- What do you like about this way of approaching care?
- What do you think will be challenging?

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Plan Purposeful and Meaningful Activities Around Strengths




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Plan

- Purposeful and meaningful to the client!
- Independent as possible
- Engaging



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Activity Adaptation



Adaptation:

- *Adjust the activity*
- *Adjust the approach*
- *Adjust the materials*

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Activity Adaptation



Change:

- Materials
- Equipment
- Supplies
- Rules
- Procedures

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Adaptation: Tray Approach



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Adaptation: Rubber Mat



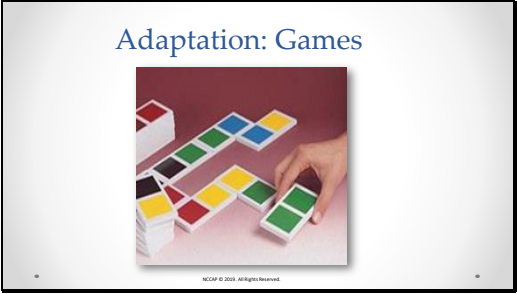
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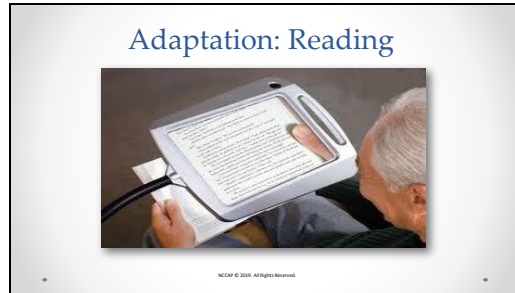
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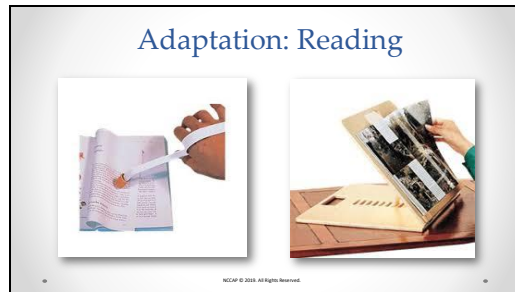
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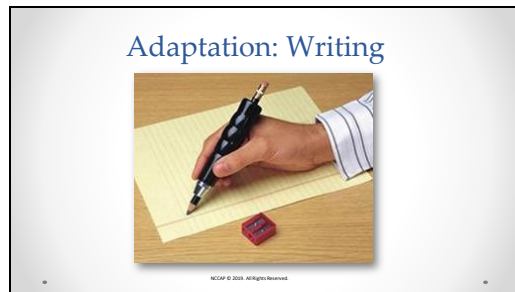
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Practice 1

Plan for Strengths, Independence and Purpose

CLIENT 1

- Interested in the outdoors, plants, animals
- Is mobile with light support
- Can manage getting water from sink, maneuver in the kitchen
- Has always had dog/cat and had a garden

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Practice 2:

Plan for Strengths, Independence and Purpose

CLIENT 2: SPORTS ENTHUSIAST

- Played baseball/basketball, etc., as a child and student
- Liked attending sports events with family
- Has some mobility limitations: cane or walker
- Has several children and/or grandchildren

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Practice 3:

Plan for Strengths, Independence and Purpose

Client 3: A "collector" and is attached to his/her possessions. Client does not go out of the home frequently so there's little "new information" coming in to assist with defining interests.

How would you:

- Introduce new ideas and activities to this client?
- Be respectful of a disorganized home?
- Elicit skill level when person has limited activity?

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Plan for Strengths

Client 4

Is not highly verbal but has good mobility, and always follows you into the kitchen when you go to prepare a meal or snack.

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Offer a Choice



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Offer a Choice

- It is always a client's choice to do an activity
- Present activity to make it attractive but without over-enthusiasm
- Be willing to accept "no" for an answer
- Have a Plan B

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Practice 1: Offering

Remember:

- It is always a client's choice to do an activity
- Present activity to make it attractive but without over-enthusiasm
- Be willing to accept "no" for an answer
- Have a Plan B

Client 1:

- Interested in the outdoors, plants, animals
- Is mobile with light support
- Has always had dog/cat and had a garden

Offer a walk outside.

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Reflect...



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...and Adapt

- EDD: "Every Day is Different"
- Skills and moods change, which can make what works one day fall flat the next
- Try a different activity that plays to different strengths
- Break it down into smaller tasks

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Reflect and Adapt: Practice

You know your client is a sports fan. He has a whole collection of baseball cards. You know there is a game on TV, but when you turn it on, the client keeps getting up and wandering around.

Reflect: possible causes of disengagement?

...and Adapt: What instead?

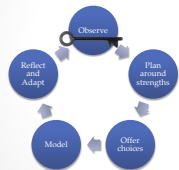
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Recap & Reflect

As a Montessori Engagement Professional, you...

To develop activities that are



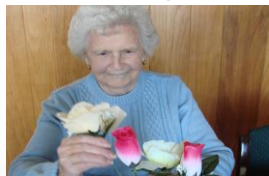
As purposeful,
independent and engaging as possible

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Activities Practice for this Week:

Put it all together



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Refining and Looking Ahead

Taking Montessori activities to the next level means...

- Preparing the environment
- Developing activities that maximize
 - Movement and manipulation
 - Contact with nature
 - Community
 - Creativity

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