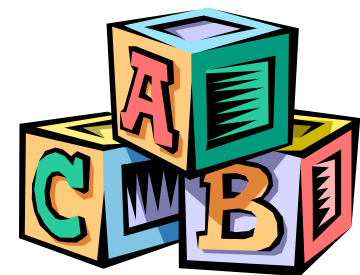
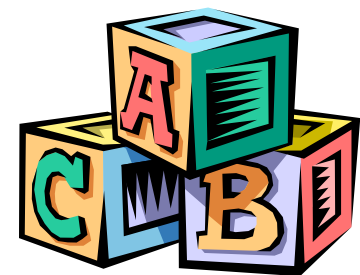


# Role of Occupational Therapy With Infants, Toddlers, and Families in Early Intervention



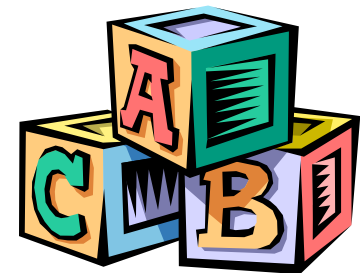
**Occupational therapy promotes function and engagement in daily habits and routines.**

**...the “occupation” of life skills...**



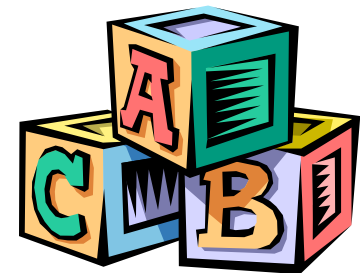
# Areas of Occupation

- **Activities of Daily Living**
- **Rest and Sleep**
- **Work**
- **Play/Leisure**
- **Social Participation**
- **Education**



# Occupational therapy practitioners offer early intervention services for children from birth to 3 years of age who:

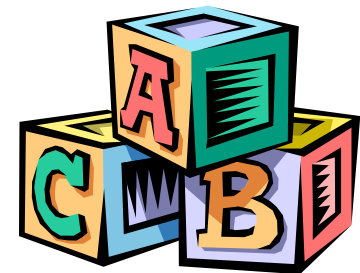
- have developmental delay
- have a diagnosed disability that has a high likelihood of causing a developmental delay
- at the state's discretion, are at risk of developmental delay



# Services can be offered in medical settings:

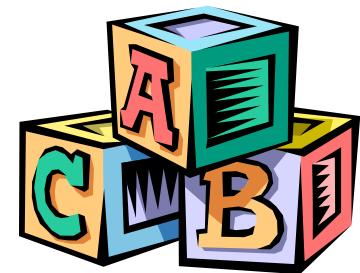
- NICU
- Pediatric outpatient center
- Hospital or clinic

Supported through private and other funding sources



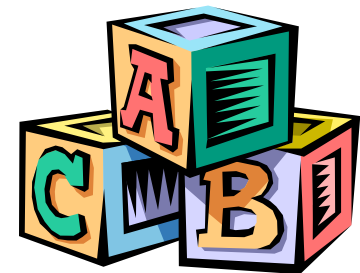
# Early Intervention Services Under IDEA Part C

- Home
- Daycare
- Early Head Start
- Community Settings



## The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Part C

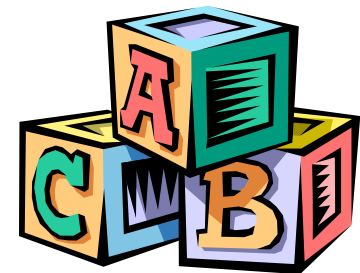
- **Make grants to states to assist each state to maintain and implement a statewide, comprehensive, coordinated, multidisciplinary, interagency system to provide early intervention services for infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families.**
- **Requires establishment of a lead agency in each state for the coordination of services.**



# Early Intervention Services (§632(4))

## Services include:

- family training, counseling, and home visits
- special instruction
- occupational therapy
- service coordination services
- early identification, screening, and assessment services
- assistive technology devices and assistive technology services
- are provided by qualified personnel
- are provided in natural environments – to the maximum extent possible – including the home and community settings in which children without disabilities participate
- are provided in conformity with an IFSP

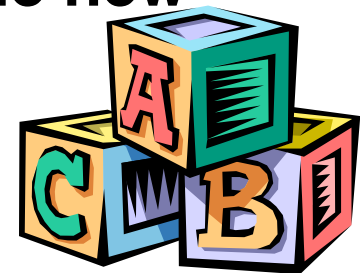




# Infant or Toddler with a Disability (§632(5))

Individuals under 3 years of age who need EI services due to:

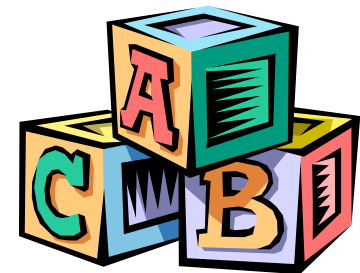
- experiencing developmental delays, as measured by appropriate diagnostic instruments and procedures in one or more of five developmental areas
- has a diagnosed physical or mental condition that has a high probability of resulting in developmental delay
- May also include, at a state's discretion
  - at-risk infants and toddlers
  - certain preschool-age children under the new flexibility provision.



# Key Part C Provisions

## Early Intervention Services must address:

- physical development
- cognitive development
- communication development
- Social or emotional development
- adaptive development

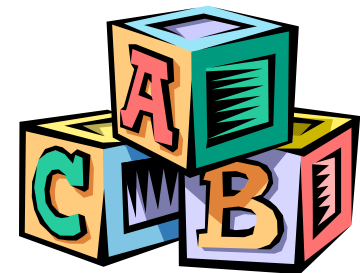


# Role of Occupational Therapy

Occupational therapy is designated as a primary service under Part C of IDEA 2004 and specifically listed in the statute.

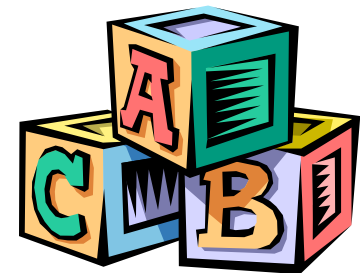
Occupational therapy practitioners may be a service coordinator as well as a service provider.

**IDEA 2004** (Public Law 108-446)



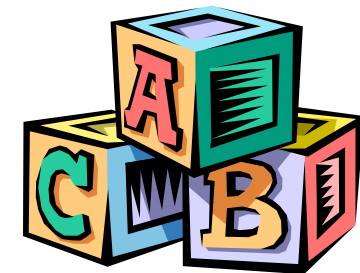
# Role of Occupational Therapy

**Practitioners team to build the family's capacity to care for their child and promote their growth and development in natural environments where families live, work, and play.**



# Occupational Therapy Process

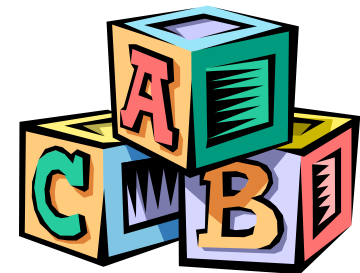
- **Evaluation**
  - Screenings
  - Formal and informal assessments
  - Parent/family interview
  - Collaboration with family & team
- **Intervention**
  - Collaboration with family & team
  - Develop Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP)
  - Incorporate evidence-based practice
- **Outcomes**
  - Promote function
  - Meet family and child's goals & needs



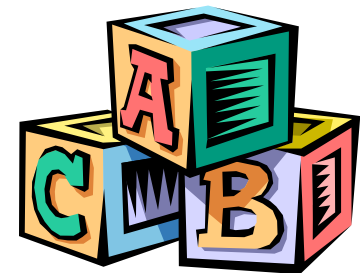
# Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP)

## Emphasis:

- Team approach
- Family/child centered
- Natural environments
- Multidisciplinary

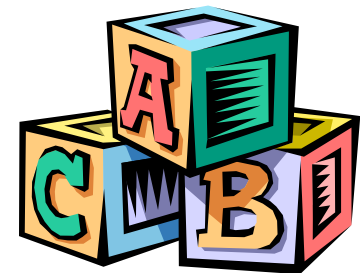


**Occupational therapy practitioners respect the unique interests, culture, needs, and priorities of the child and family and build on their strengths and abilities.**



# Occupational Therapy Practitioners in Action

**Occupational therapy practitioners support children and families to be successful in their everyday routines.**



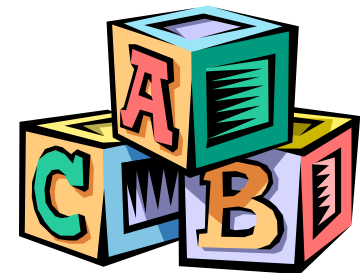


# Participation in Play Time

- **Increase social skills**
- **Advance motor coordination**
- **Develop problem-solving abilities**

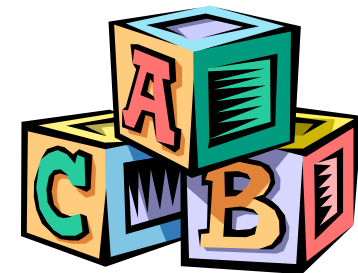


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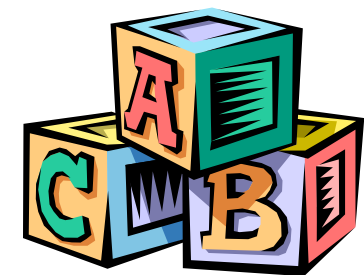
# Participation in Meal Time

- **Promote independence in self-feeding**
- **Improve ability to eat a variety of foods and textures**
- **Create family-friendly schedules**



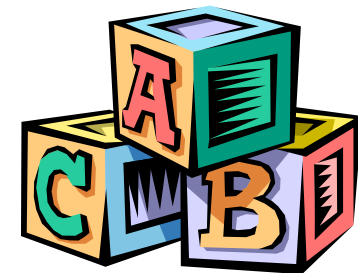
# Participation in Bath Time

- Address positioning needs
- Ensure safety during activities of daily living
- Promote sensory-rich experiences



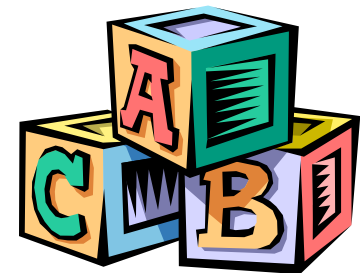
# Social Participation

- **Manage emotions**
- **Develop self-advocacy skills**
- **Strengthen family bonds**



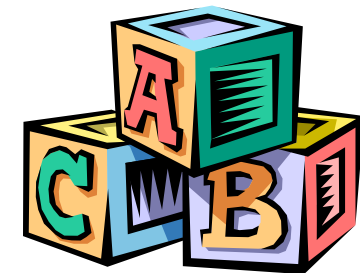
# Occupational Therapy Practitioners in Action

**They provide service in  
a variety of settings including:**



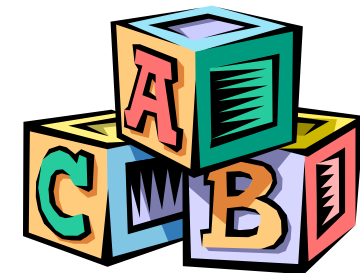
# Daycare

- **Facilitate peer interaction**
- **Coach daycare providers**
- **Promote play skills**



# Home

- Establish healthy sleep/nap schedules
- Design safe play areas
- Support family caretaking abilities



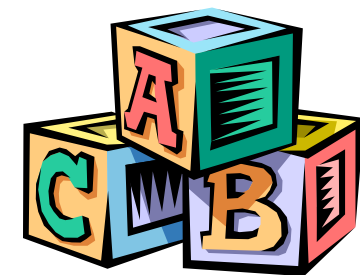
# Community

- Promote safe transportation
- Increase ease in transitions
- Facilitate participation in community activities





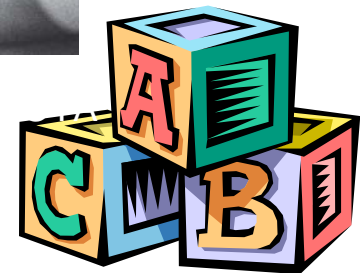
# Occupational therapy practitioners support and build the capacity of the family to care for their child



# Occupational Therapy practitioners modify activities or the environment so the child can participate

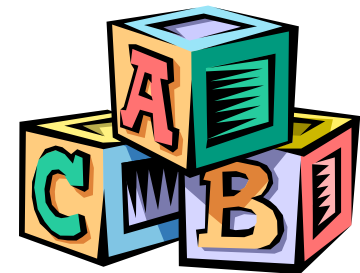


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# How can we help you?

- **Direct Service**
- **Service Coordination**
- **Consultation**
- **Education/Training**

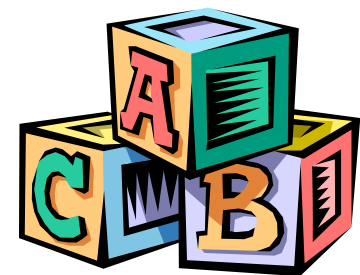


**To learn more, contact the  
American Occupational Therapy Association**

[www.aota.org](http://www.aota.org)

**301-652-AOTA (2682)**

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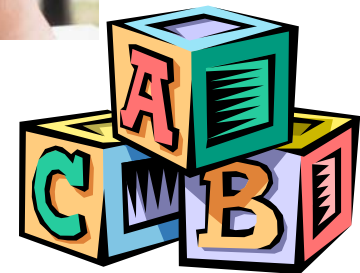


# Occupational Therapy

## Living Life to Its Fullest



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Therapy Association, Inc.



# References and Resources

1. National Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center (NECTAC):

<http://www.nectac.org>

2. Occupational Therapy for Children: Birth to 3 Years of Age

<http://www.aota.org/Consumers/FactSheets/Children/39482.aspx>

3. Transitions for Children and Youth

<http://www.aota.org/Consumers/FactSheets/Children/Transitions.aspx>

4. Addressing Sensory integration Across the Lifespan

<http://www.aota.org/Consumers/FactSheets/Children/Fact-Sheet.aspx>

5. Occupational Therapy in Preschool Settings

<http://www.aota.org/Consumers/FactSheets/School/39475.aspx>



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Therapy Association, Inc.

