

Assignment #1

This assignment will be on the pediatric case presented in the book. The case we will be using is Malachi, the 4 year old child with mixed-type cerebral palsy (athetoid and spastic). Malachi is presented in the book and there are several videos of him on the student resources available with your book at <http://thePoint.lww.com>. The videos provide a good visual of the child. This is a brief synopsis of the videos:

- Poor postural control is significantly impaired. If he is propped up into a sitting position on the floor he requires his arms for support and has poor control.
- With external postural support he is able to use his arms move his head to track an object. When the control is at his lower to mid-ribs he shows fatigue with head control and continues to use his hands for support. He does much better when the support is at his shoulder.
- His upper extremity control presents with athetoid/dystonic components. He has difficult with both reach and release but does better with adequate external support. He is able to transfer a block between hands and is able to grasp and release a small object using a pincer. With support at the shoulders he is able to grasp a larger ball with two hands and release it.

For this assignment, the COTA will be working toward goals of self-feeding finger foods and taking off socks. We will make the assumptions that he can chew and swallow mechanical soft foods and manage thin liquids, so that we do not need to be concerned with oral motor skills for this assignment. It is also important to consider that a child works in the context of play and treatment sessions need to include playful activities that will work toward the stated goals.

Devise 3 therapy sessions to work on this skills. Each session will be 50 minutes. Consider the information in the book on motor learning, Information for each treatment session needs to be specific - how will the child be supported, what specific activities will he do, how will the environment be set up, describe how behaviors will be reinforced, how the session will proceed for the 60 minutes (including rest breaks). It is important to be clear about how the play activities will relate to the functional goals. As always, provide evidence for your decisions, using a minimum of 3 resources.