

Improving Fine Motor Skills with Occupational Therapy: Meet Sylvie



When Sylvie was 4 years old her teacher noticed she was having difficulty with activities such as drawing, cutting objects and writing her name. Sylvie's pediatrician sent her for an occupational therapy evaluation which revealed Sylvie's difficulties with fine motor activities due to decreased coordination, endurance, and muscle tone.

Cutting



- Sylvie (Atypical)**
4 years 6 months
- Has difficulty with finger placement on scissors
 - Uses other muscle groups to coordinate activity
 - Unable to cut along the line



- Maxie (Typical)**
4 years 1 months
- Places fingers in accurate position on scissors
 - Able to coordinate movement easily because of strength in her hands and core frame
 - Cuts cleanly across the line

Coloring



- Sylvie (Atypical)**
4 years 6 months
- Grasps marker in an atypical way
 - Colors outside the lines
 - Unable to fill in shapes with precision and detail



- Maxie (Typical)**
4 years 1 months
- Holds marker in a typical way
 - Able to use finer point marker to achieve greater detail
 - Colors inside the lines

Occupational Therapy



Sylvie began occupational therapy both at home and in the clinic to help develop her strength and coordination. Just as an adult attends occupational therapy to improve his/her job skills, a child attends occupational therapy to improve his/her ability to grow, play, and learn.

10 months after occupational therapy

Sylvie had significant improvement with fine motor skill activities and is now able to participate in everyday childhood activities with ease.



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