



Kids of Wonder: A Visual Journal of My Internship at Wesley Family Services

Summer 2020



Wesley Family Services



Mission:

To empower children, adults, and families by providing transformative care

Visions:

- To do more for children, families, and adults
- To be more effective, efficient, and sustainable
- To continue to innovate in what we do and how we do it

Wonder Kids

Wonder Kids is Wesley Family Services autism program.

At Wonder Kids the kids are taught social skills and play games with their friends.

A typical session follows an order because kids with autism do not like change.

The session goes: mood and news, discussion, structured social, and sensory.

When in person they do gross motor games in their gym.

The image above is a typical outline of a Wonder Kids session.

Red Jaguars & Blue Barracudas

Schedule with Activities:

*Don't forget to do points after each activity!

- **Mood and News**
 - 2-3 questions/comments for each client
 - Challenge clients to use words other than "happy", "tired", or "neutral"
 - **Discussion**
 - *HW Point: Review Week
 - Theme: Using a Social Filter
 - Review basics of why it is important to use a social filter
 - Can touch on previous themes about how to use a social filter during conversation.
 - Explain "public vs private": things we say out loud to others and things we should keep inside our head
 - Conversations to have with family members versus people you may be less familiar with
 - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0x2i9p4_S&list=PLkzAhnlU6x_i5agG0Z11E_Qe1n2zqwG&index4
 - **Structured Social**
 - Two Truths and a Lie
 - Two Truths and a Lie is a fun group-based game you can play at parties or use as ice breakers. No special equipment or preparation is needed, though you might want to use pencil and paper to keep track of scores (if playing for points).
 - Directions: One by one, each person in the circle says three statements about him/herself. **Two of these statements must be facts, or "truths," and one must be a lie.** The other members then try to guess which statement is the lie.
 - **Sensory:**
 - Learn to Draw:
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Oia5T9n11M>
- **Clients can have the last 5 minutes to talk with one another or do show and tell!**

Discussion

For discussion the staff talk about social skills.

They ask the kids questions on how to handle a situation or what they should say.

The kids enjoy watching videos on the topic.

The picture is of a video used for the social filter topic.



Structured Social

There are various games that are typically used for structured social.

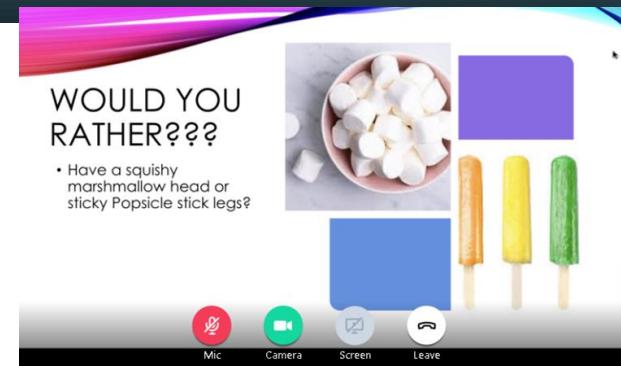
Since Wonder Kids has moved to telehealth the game have been limited

Typically well play hangman, jeopardy, a guessing game, or a scavenger hunt with the younger kids

The older kids get to play harder games such as *“Kahoot!”* *“Skribbl.io,”* and *“Scattergories.”*

The top image is of a game played with all age groups.

The bottom image is *“Review Jeopardy”* which is used to review the past discussion topics.



Starting Conversation	Joining Conversation	Maintaining Conversation	Ending Conversation	Conversation Cues/Manners
	100	100	100	100
200	200	200	200	200
300	300	300	300	300
400	400	400	400	400
500	500	500	500	500

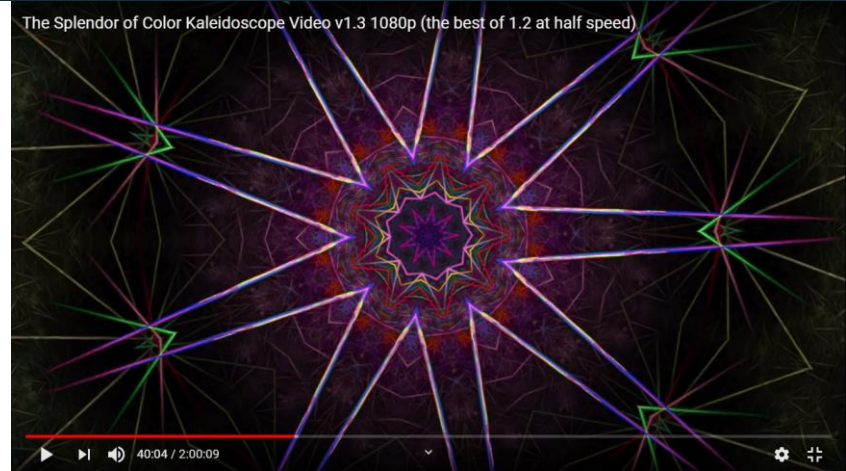
Sensory

Sensory is one of the most anticipated parts of sessions.

For *sensory* the kids get to listen to music, draw, and relax.

The top picture is a visual video with music to relax to.

The bottom picture is a draw-along video.



Wonder Kids In Person

When in person Wonder Kids has about three to twelve kids.

During the pandemic the most kids that can be in the sessions is eight.

The top picture is what the Wonder Kids room usually looks like.

The bottom picture is how the Wonder Kids rooms look as they prepare to come back to in person meetings.

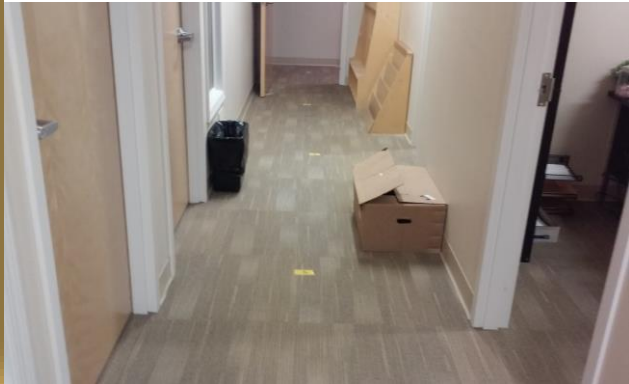


In Person Sensory

For sensory in person there is a room with bean bag chairs, a swing, and a bubble tube.

The kids enjoy this more than sensory for the telehealth, often asking to use it multiple times.

To get in the sensory room there are numbers six feet apart to wait on.



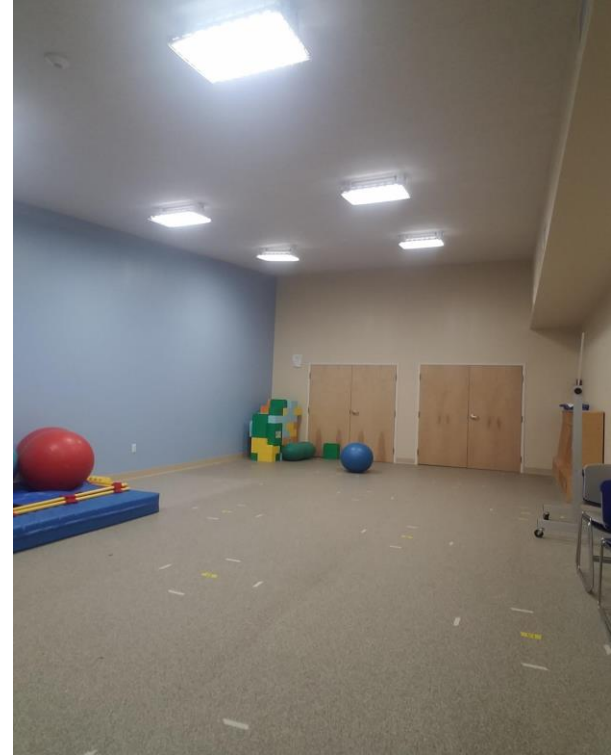
Gross Motor

Gross motor is a part of the session that is only done in person.

For this, the kids usually play games like tag and dodgeball.

Now they play games that have no contact and do not require them to handle anything.

Pictured to the right is the gross motor room with the taped out areas for each kid to stand.



My Weekly Office Tasks

During the course of my internship I was asked to do various jobs around the office.

Usually I did printing and copying of various forms that needed to be signed by parents.

The biggest project that I had was to create a quiz for the new hire powerpoint.

The bottom picture is the office birthday board which I was able to use my creative skills on.



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Personal Reflection

I thoroughly enjoyed my time at Wesley Family Services. I highly recommend to anyone considering to work with kids to look into doing your internship here. I learned very quickly how to work with kids. All of the kids are very enjoyable to work with and you learn more about yourself. I feel ready to work with kids in the future. The staff here were all very kind and they understand that you are learning and some of them are fresh out of school. I will cherish the memories I have from working in Wonder Kids.

The End

Start Date: 6/4/20

End Date: 8/13/20

Overall Rating: 10 out of 10