

# Integration Of Social Media In Occupational Therapy Education

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# Learning Objectives:

1. Discuss the plausibility of social media in Occupational Therapy education.
2. Identify the benefits and challenges of using social media in Occupational Therapy education.
3. Discuss learning activities that are enhanced by the application of social media.

# The use of technology is an integral feature of flexible learning.



**WHERE, WHEN, AND HOW  
LEARNING OCCURS**

**TEACHING  
AND  
LEARNING**



# We need to embrace technology and teach via the best platform for learning.

Success



Success

**LIFE LONG LEARNERS**

**COMPETENT**

**PRACTITIONERS**

# Can we integrate Social Media within Occupational Therapy curriculum ?

- Social media technology is growing and transforming how students learn and how educators teach. YES!



# Pinterest : Pin What ?

A virtual pin board site that allows you to create boards of (pins) images, links websites, videos that can be used to search for treatment ideas, resource guides, and connect to other clinicians.

Pinterest was used as Virtual Resource Notebook in a pediatric OT class.



# Pinterest

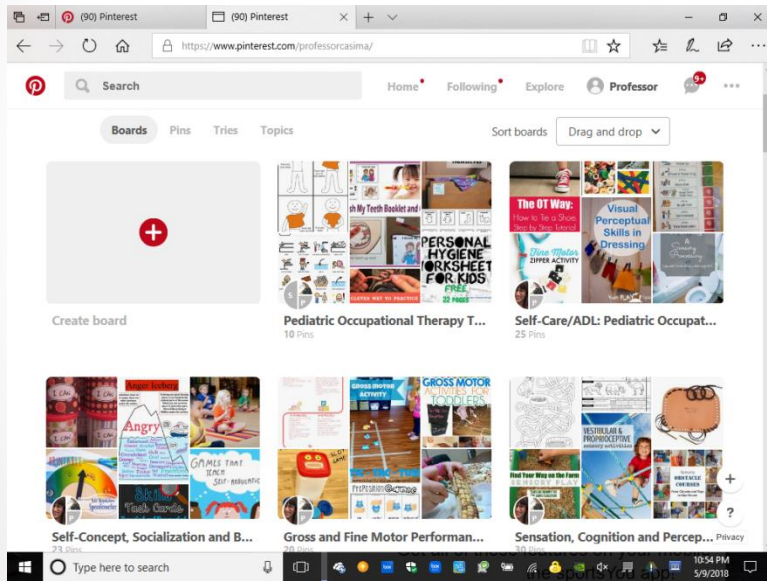
Download app or Join at  
Pinterest.com

Complete profile

Search for boards of interest

Create on **Boards**

Search for **Pins** to add to  
boards



# Pinterest Example: pediatric self care

The screenshot shows a Pinterest browser window with the URL <https://www.pinterest.com/professorcasima/wfot-example-of-pediatric-self-care-ideas/?eq=>. The board is titled "WFOT example of pediatric self-care ideas" and contains several pins related to pediatric self-care and sensory processing.

- Pin 1:** "20+ Tips to Teach Kids to Tie Their Shoes Before School Starts!" featuring images of hands tying shoes.
- Pin 2:** "WFOT example of pediatric..." showing a visual schedule with tasks: "6:40 am Get Dressed", "7:00 am Take Medication", and "7:10-7:20 am Get on Bus".
- Pin 3:** "75+ FEEDING THERAPY TIPS & STRATEGIES" from ARKTherapeutic.com, featuring a child eating.
- Pin 4:** "VISUAL CUE CARDS FOR GETTING DRESSED" from GrowingHandsOnKids.com, featuring illustrations of a boy and a girl.
- Pin 5:** "20+ Tips for Teaching Kids How to Tie Their Shoes..." featuring images of shoes and hands.
- Pin 6:** "Visual Perceptual Skills in" featuring a circular graphic.
- Pin 7:** "TEACHING KIDS HOW TO DRESS THEMSELVES" featuring a child in a striped tank top and yellow pants.
- Pin 8:** "Toileting & Sensory Processing" from a Pediatric O.T., featuring a child in a toilet.
- Pin 9:** "Improving Following Directions with Getting..." featuring a child's legs and feet.

The bottom of the screenshot shows the Windows taskbar with the search bar "Type here to search" and the system tray displaying the time "10:12 PM 5/9/2018".



# Implications

- Accessible through **Mobile** Device
- **Bridge the gap** between traditional didactic learning and clinical environment
- **Creative tools** that can enhance critical thinking - treatment ideas
- Explore activities that are **meaningful to clients** – facilitate client collaboration

# Challenges

- Privacy Settings - personal and professional social media
- Validity of the information - still need to utilize clinical reasoning to determine best application of information
- Start organized to stay organized - make sure the pins are on the correct board

# What did the students think ?



- **97%** found the Pinterest assignment to be fun
- **93 %** found it useful during clinical fieldwork
- **91 %** prefer to use Pinterest as compared to traditional methods
- **82%** stated they will continue to use Pinterest in their OT education

# Social media can enhance education, improve practice, and enable creativity



Having convenient access to resources through social media sites like Pinterest enables occupational therapy students learning and clinical practice.

# References

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Thank you!  
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