O&M with INFANTS

Things to remember when working with infants

*O&M begins at birth
*All activities should take a whole sensory approach.
*Provide as many different experiences with the baby as possible.
*READ to the baby regularly.
*Crib time should be limited.
*Face the baby when speaking. This helps with development of language and head and trunk control.
*Change the baby's position often. Give the baby reasons to move.
*Use a lot of touch descriptors when playing with the baby.
*Use hand over hand during activities.
*Leave the baby undressed to play part of the day.
*Take the baby on walks and describe what you see and talk about what can be heard.
*Experience movement on swings, rocking horses, hammocks, rocking chairs, etc.
*Encourage others to play with and interact with the baby.
*Remember that new experiences may be startling or frightening.
*Try to maintain a regular, predictable schedule.

O&M with TODDLERS

Things to remember when working with toddlers

*O&M includes an on-going building of concepts and skills from the infant level.
*KEEP READING!! Talk about the stories and how they may apply to real life events.
*Keep using the whole sensory approach.
*Share with others your child's best learning methods.
*Talk about listening to and learning from environmental sounds.
*Work on developing body awareness and spatial relationships.
*Keep the environment safe to traveling.
*Use lots of descriptors when talking about the environment or referencing things in the environment.
*Give the child age appropriate responsibilities.
*Encourage the child to help with day-to-day tasks.