

Helping Children and Babies

Imagine not being able to use your hands and fingers. Who helps children and babies who cannot? An occupational therapist helps everyone who cannot use their hands and fingers in the way they should at their age. Babies should be able to pick up toys and food and bring them to their mouths. A young child should be able to hold a fork or spoon and bring it to his or her mouth. Older children and adults need to be able to hold a pen and write with it and dress themselves without help. Some people are born with a disability or it is caused by a serious injury. Either way OTs can help with these problems. I want to be an OT because I want to help babies and young children who need it.

An occupational therapist's job involves going to patients' houses or working in a hospital or therapy center. An OT helps children, babies, and adults learn or relearn skills they should be able to do. Activities such as grabbing things, picking items up, writing, eating, clapping and pushing buttons are important abilities for everyone to have at certain ages. An OT helps a baby by teaching him or her to clap and pick items up and bring them to the mouth. Children and adults may need to learn or relearn how to write and dress themselves.

I first wanted to be an occupational therapist when my baby brother needed occupational therapy after getting surgery for a brain tumor. He was unable to use his left arm and hand. I loved to help the OT when she came to our house. I would gather toys for my brother to use during therapy and I would help him bring food, like Cheerios and crackers, to his mouth. The reason I want to be an OT is because I want to help babies regain their strength and have a normal life.

I want to go to school and study occupational therapy. Taking classes such as science to learn about how the bones and muscles work will be an important part of my studying. I will get a job at a hospital or therapy center or go to peoples' houses to help their babies. It will be a lot of school and studying but it is worth it to help them achieve skills that they need.

Occupational therapists help children, babies, and adults do what they should be able to do in every day activity. Everyone deserves to live knowing how to use their hands and fingers. I will be so happy to help them with this. I was very lucky to be able to help an OT work with my brother. That experience made me know what I want to do when I am grown up.