

Marykate Gallagher

**Sensory Stimulation Kit
Theme: Fall**

Supplies:

Kit Contents: Hocus Pocus Movie, Halloween party music, spider Halloween lights, spiced wafers, caramel apple lollipop, lip balm, a pine cone, fuzzy socks, foam football, solar dancing pumpkin, egg corn shakers, hay, fall themed foam figures, and a cinnamon scented candle

Optimal Item: A carved pumpkin that the client could stick their hand in the middle to feel the seeds and slim.

Additional Equipment/ Supplies Required: Video player & TV (DVD and/or VCR) to show movie clips, CD player to play music, lighter to light candle, and napkins

Activities:

Visual: First ask client to identify the color of the basket the supplies is in and then identify the animals, fruit, letters, and colors on the front of the basket. If the client does not know what one of the items is give a hint, such as, “That animal makes the sound hoot” (owl). Show client clips from the Halloween movie and have them reminisce on past Halloween experiences. Ask the client specific questions about previous Halloweens and what some of their favorite parts of this holiday consist of. Also have the client discuss the movie and his/her favorite parts and why they are their favorite. The solar dancing pumpkin would be something to have the client see the effects of placing the pumpkin in and out of the sun, and better understanding the concept of solar powered objects. The flashing spider lights will grab the client’s attention along with the purple spiders that are attached around the lights.

Auditory: Using the CDs, play upbeat songs that will encourage the client to move around, dance, and sing which could improve positive emotions. If the client has heard one of the songs before have them tell you about the first time they heard it and whom they were with. If a client does not want to listen to a song, ask them what they do not like about it. The egg corn shakers can be used for shaking to the beat of the music or for client’s own pleasure.

Olfactory: Ask the client to describe some smells they associate with fall and have them explain why. Then light the candle and have client smell the fumes and guess what flavor it is. Once they correctly guess, ask client if they like cinnamon or not, if so ask what kinds of food they typically use cinnamon on. Have client smell pinecones and describe the smell and relate it to other things that also have that smell.

Tactile: Give the client the strands of hay to hold and describe. Ask client what fall “character” (scarecrow) is made of hay. Have client try to remember a movie a scarecrow was in or a time they saw a scarecrow in person before. Ask client what else hay is used for, such as what animals eat hay or what activities involve hay. Next, have the client feel

the fuzzy socks and ask client to describe the texture and to reminisce on a time having warmth in the fall. Then have client put on socks (working on fine and gross motor skills). Have client apply chap stick to lips (working fine motor skills by twisting the cap off and gross by applying chap stick to lips). Allow client to describe the feeling of the chap stick on lips (tingling, smooth, wet) and also have them describe the flavor or smell. Give client the pinecone while eyes are close, so client can feel and describe item while guessing what it is. Give client foam football and ask how it relates to fall. Then ask client if they have any favorite football teams or memories going to football games.

Taste: Before letting client taste the candy/cookies ask what some of their favorite fall foods are. Ask if they have any specific memories associated with their favorite fall foods. Then ask client if they would like to try the spiced wafers or caramel lollipop. Ask client to describe the taste and relate them to any other similar tastes.