

## Sensational OT Tip of the Month

### Disorganized Child

Do you know children that ...

1. Get “lost” during transitions from one activity to another?
2. Are the last to get started on a task?
3. Lose track of papers and materials?

These children are may have struggles with organizing the steps of an activity. Initiating and completing work are both more challenging than for others. For some children this is due to dyspraxia (motor organization). For others it may relate to attention and focus.

### Sensational Ideas for a Disorganized Child

1. Visual schedules (written or pictures) to note when finished with one step and what is next step. Keep it simple and clear!
2. Pre-warning when time is almost up for the transition to the next task. Visual timer may be helpful.
3. Expandable folders to keep all papers in one place that is organized by color or labelled sections (purged periodically).
4. Use of technology with calendars and reminders for assignments.

For suggestions for developing organizational systems for sensory based issues go to:

<http://www.systemsforsensorykids.com/>

Go to <http://www.cintiotinstitute.com/sensoryintegration> for information on sensory integration including dyspraxia.

[Click here](#) for more tip sheets for preschool and school age classrooms at – [www.cintiOTInstitute.com/tipofthemoth](http://www.cintiOTInstitute.com/tipofthemoth) . For information about occupational therapy services at COTI go to [www.cintiOTInstitute.com](http://www.cintiOTInstitute.com). (COTI-2018)