

Debriefing

What is debriefing?

It is your opportunity to reflect on and learn from the fieldwork experience and evaluate how successful you were in meeting your objectives for the student. (Mackenzie, 2002)

How do you do this?

Step back from the experience, critique and reflect upon it. Don't wait too long to debrief- review the points below within a few days of the completion of the Level I placement, while it is fresh in your mind.

- Vent your feelings about the experience
 - Were you disappointed about how the student responded to the overall experience?
 - What happened that turned out better than you expected?
- Look for peer support and ideas to make things better
 - Are there other OT's or other professional who are involved with student training? They may be able to give you some ideas
- Develop new strategies for those that didn't work as well as you expected
 - Would it help to schedule things differently, give the student a longer time to orient to the facility and the clients?
- Review your personal progress as a Level I FW educator
 - What feedback did you get from the student about your supervision style, how the fieldwork experience was organized, the pace of activities and opportunities?
- Incorporate new information you gained from the student into the next experience or into your practice
 - Is there a new assessment or intervention the student mentioned that you want to read up on?
 - Is there an article or evidence you learned about?
- Think about ways you may be able to lower the students anxiety so they can learn better , develop confidence and enjoy the clinical experience
 - Would a different approach to the orientation process or explaining what the student should expect in a little more detail have helped the student be ready for the experiences they encountered?
- Reflect on some of the unexpected experiences the student encountered and ask yourself what impact it had on the student
 - Did a challenging client or other professional have an impact on the student's ability to learn in the experience?