
Spring 2024 Virtual OTD Capstone Symposium

OTD Capstone Symposia

Spring 4-15-2024

Exploring the Occupation of Adaptive Skateboarding

Megan Sandwith

University of St. Augustine for Health Sciences, m.sandwith@usa.edu

Susan MacDermott

University of St. Augustine for Health Sciences, smacdermott@usa.edu

Amy Griswold

University of St. Augustine for Health Sciences, drgriz@adaptiveclimbingalliance.com

Follow this and additional works at: <https://soar.usa.edu/otdcapstonesspring2024>



Part of the [Occupational Therapy Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Sandwith, M., MacDermott, S., & Griswold, A. (2024, April 15). Exploring the Occupation of Adaptive Skateboarding. Poster presented at the Virtual OTD Capstone Symposium, University of St Augustine for Health Sciences. Retrieved from <https://soar.usa.edu/otdcapstonesspring2024/42>

This Poster/presentation is brought to you for free and open access by the OTD Capstone Symposia at SOAR @ USA. It has been accepted for inclusion in Spring 2024 Virtual OTD Capstone Symposium by an authorized administrator of SOAR @ USA. For more information, please contact soar@usa.edu.

Exploring the Occupation of Adaptive Skateboarding

Megan Sandwith, OTS; Susan MacDermott, OTD, OTRL; Amy Griswold, OTD, OTR/L, RYT, CBIS

BACKGROUND

Advocates for adaptive skateboarding, strive to bring inclusivity to skateboarding through adaptative strategies that support participation for individuals with varied abilities. By exploring the contexts of occupation, occupational therapists can identify supporting and limiting factors of performance and shape interventions around client-centered values that promote participation (AOTA, 2020).

PROBLEM

There is a gap in the literature and knowledge of the occupation of adaptive skateboarding and the role of occupational therapy (OT) for promoting participation.

PURPOSE

To explore the occupation of adaptive skateboarding to increase the occupational knowledge and to inform occupational therapy's role.

Outcome objectives

- Identify the supports and barriers for participation of adaptive skateboarding.
- Develop a resource that supports individuals who desire to participate or who aim to support participation in adaptive skateboarding.

METHODS

Research Experience

Question What are the supports and barriers for participation in adaptive skateboarding?

- Individuals ages 18-65 who participate in adaptive skateboarding and/or WCMX
- Recruitment: Personal connections and snowball sampling

Survey (n = 41) & Interview (n = 6)

- Background & Performance
- Social & Cultural
- Environment
- Concept of Risk
- Identity
- Resource and Barriers

Videos (n = 11) Displayed participation in adaptive skateboarding to gather observable variables of the occupation.

Data Analysis Thematic Analysis (Braun & Clark, 2006). Visual-Verbal Video Analysis Method (Fazeli et al., 2023)

Community-Based Experience

Questions

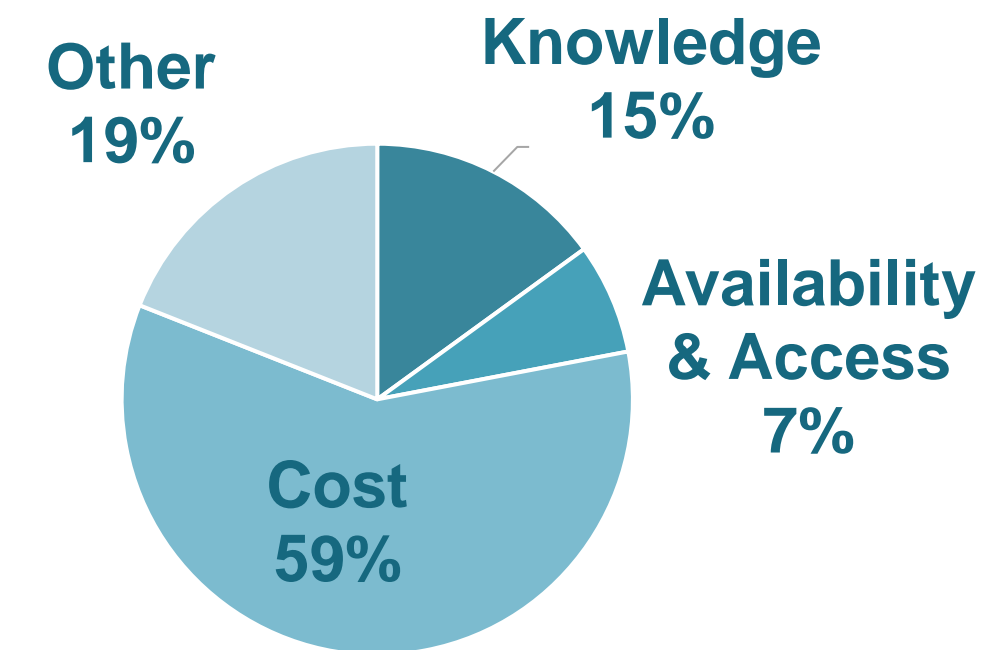
- What makes a skatepark accessible?
- What are adaptive sports programs doing?
- What can I learn from the community?

Actions

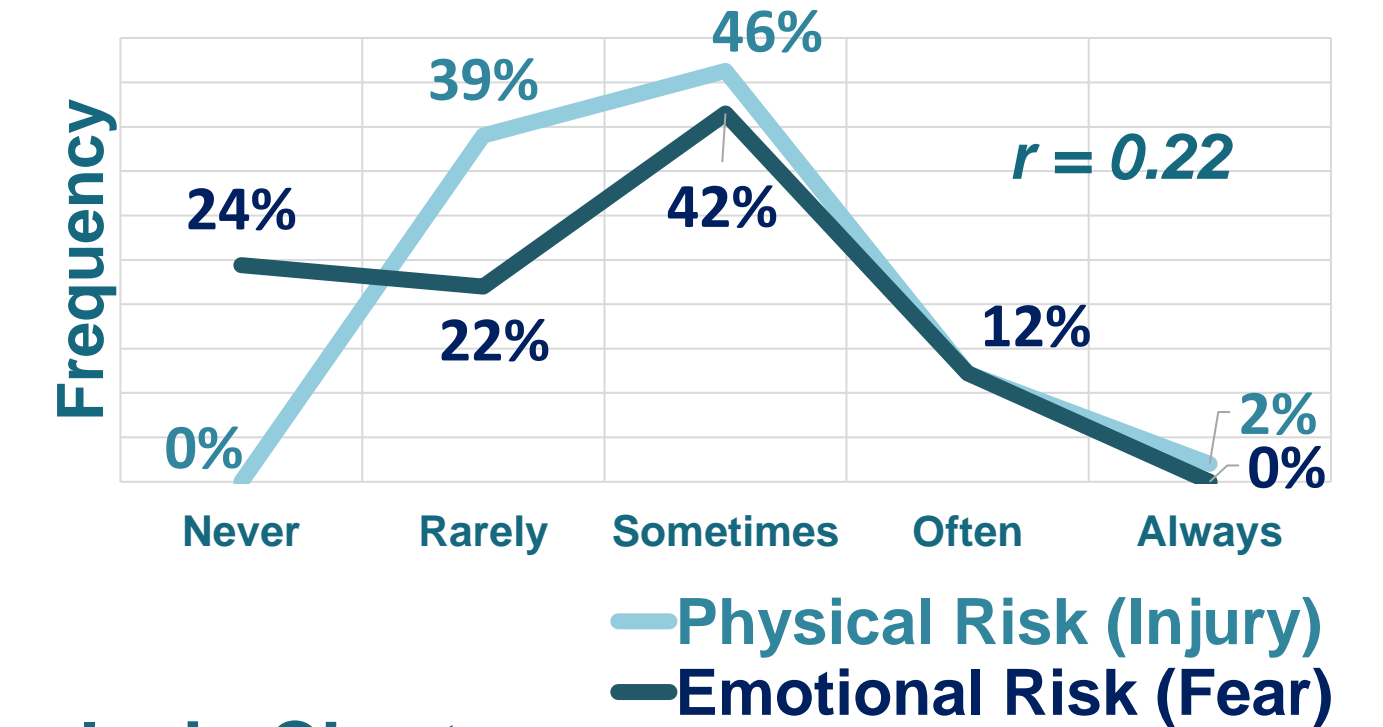
- Toured, observed, and recorded the accessibility of skateparks across the pacific coast
- Volunteered with adaptive sports programs
- Connected with the community and learned about their lived experience

RESULTS

Equipment Barriers



Risk of Participation



Thematic Analysis Chart

Themes	Description	Quotes
Catalyst for identity formation	Intersection of unique abilities and freedom to individualize occupational form encourages creativity/self-expression in <i>becoming</i> a "skater". Shared sense of respect and <i>belonging</i> with <i>being</i> a skater.	"I kind of look at it like as an art form [...] I'm just totally expressing myself completely and honestly." -004
Strength of community	Social environment embraces encouragement, collaboration, inclusion.	"I have never felt so welcomed in a space, especially as a trans, intersex, disabled person." -survey
Supports of skill transference	Strength; balance; adaptive strategies; confidence in ability; emotional regulation; perseverance; mental health support.	"Whether we're gonna call it skateboarding, WCMX, or a life skill." -001
Weighing risk within rebellious culture	Weighing risk with physical ability. Rebellion attitude of acting against societal expectation of disability.	"The risk factor was definitely part of the allure and like the whole I guess you could say culture of skateboarding" -005
Navigating social inequalities	Pressure to "prove yourself"; risk of exploitation; stereotyped as "less skilled"	"I feel like if you're in adaptive athlete, you really need to prove yourself." -001

RESOURCES

Interactive Website
adaptiveskateboard.com

- About Adaptive Skateboarding
- Lived Experience
- Skatepark Accessibility
- Upcoming Events
- Resources



Skatepark Accessibility Infographic



References