

# An Example of Scaffolding in Nurse Training

The following lesson plan activity is an excerpt from Creative Clinical Teaching in the Health Professions. This Open Education Resource has many practical applications for learning theory in a healthcare setting.

## ***Seek and Find – A Scaffolding Activity for Orientation***

Lynda Champoux shares the following template for a scaffolding activity that she implements when orienting students to their clinical area. Lynda named the activity *Seek and Find*.

*Seek and Find:*

*Welcome to ....unit name*

*Complete the “Seek and Find” orientation activity in teams of two. We’ll discuss any questions which you were not able to answer at the end of the activity.*

*\*\*Please be vigilant about maintaining the privacy and confidentiality of patient information as you access charts to complete this activity. Ask for permission before entering any patient rooms. Consider the impact on the patients and their privacy when you visit the dining room, hall or lounges.*

### **Select a Patient Chart with your partner and search out the following details:**

Physician’s or Doctor’s Order sheet – Where is the most current order?

Nursing Narrative Notes or Patient Progress Record – What type of charting do they complete on a daily basis? Monthly?

Admission History – When and why was this client admitted to the unit?

Intake Assessment – Was an ADL assessment included?

List of Conditions – How would you determine the conditions that are a priority for this client? Current concerns versus conditions which are no longer a problem for the client?

Discharge Planning – How do you find information on when this patient is scheduled to be discharged from the unit?

Medication list

DNR orders and Advanced Directives

### **Search out the following information for this unit:**

What is the phone number for the unit?

How does the call bell system work? How do you get help quickly if you need it?

Where is the diet sheet or record of the patients’ diets?

How would you find out if a patient is on swallowing precautions?

Where would you be able to get a drink of milk or juice for your client?

How will you know a client’s activity level or when to use a mechanical lift?

If a resident were to ask you to get them to the bathroom quickly, what information do you need to safely respond?

Where are the clean linen supplies? Adult briefs? Skin care products?

Where do you place used linens or patient clothing needing to be washed?

Which patients use the tub or shower and where are they located?

Where are the staff assignments or teams posted? Number of RNs, LPNs and HCAs? Where will the patient assignment sheets be posted?

Where would you find information on a resident's last bowel movement?

If they haven't had a BM for several days, where do you look for bowel care orders or protocols?

Where are the blood pressure cuffs and stethoscopes? Do they have an O2 sat monitor? A manual and an electronic BP cuff?

Does this unit have access to oxygen equipment or suction?

Where are the fire alarms, extinguishers and exits?

How do you respond as a student if the fire alarm goes off?

How do you respond if you witness a cardiac arrest?

Your client is worried about being ready for the physiotherapist's visit this morning. How do you know when the physio will be arriving?

A patient has just had an accident on the way to the bathroom. How will you handle the clean up? Is this your responsibility or the house keeping staff?

Where will you take your break or get a drink of water?

*Let's regroup and finish the Seek and Find together at the agreed to time.*

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