

A serene Japanese garden scene featuring a pond with large, dark rocks scattered throughout. The water reflects the sky and surrounding greenery. In the background, a traditional stone lantern stands on a bed of light-colored pebbles. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and contemplative.








Reflection: Embodied Practice Processing Packet










STAR Institute Symposium 2023

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Developmental FX | Denver, CO, USA**








Processing of KAWA elements *(Iwama, 2006)*

	River flow 	Riverbed/River sides (environment) 	Rocks (problems) 	Driftwood (personal qualities) 	Spaces (open/ spacious) 	Light (glimmers) 	Compass or other things that you would like to add... 
My Kawa							
The Profession's Kawa							

Handouts for processing of KAWA elements *(Iwama, 2006)*

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River Flow (Life Flow and Priorities) Guiding Questions:

1. If your professional journey as a practitioner utilizing **sensory integrative processing (SIP) theories and approaches** was a river, what does your river look like?

How would you describe the flow of your river right now?

2. Can you describe how you typically spend your professional application of SIP?

What do you most enjoy? How competent do you feel?

If Optimal flow is fast, voluminous, unobstructed, what is your tacit reflection of the flow for you?

River walls and riverbed (kawa zoko) Guiding Questions:

1. If your professional journey as a practitioner utilizing **sensory integrative processing (SIP) theories and approaches** was a river, what does your riverbed look like?

What makes the banks/boundaries/shape of your river right now?

2. Can you describe how you typically spend your professional application of SIP?

What allows you to integrate your practice and maintain integrity as the work flows? How do you feel competent to share your practice? To advocate for your practice? To deepen your practice?

Rocks (iwa) Guiding Questions:

1. If your professional journey as a practitioner utilizing **sensory integrative processing (SIP)** theories and approaches was a river, what are the barriers, rocks, obstacles in your river? Think about the obstacles/challenges that you encounter:

Are you having any difficulties right now? What are they? Why do you think (those things) are difficult for you? How is it difficult?

2. Are these rocks within the flow things that you can navigate and appreciate, or do they catch you and challenge you? Are they in your control or out of your control?
3. Is there anything about your professional life right now that you would like to change? What is it? Why? How would you like things to change? If things were better, what do you think would be different?
4. Is there anything in particular which you are worried or unsure about that you would like to follow up with - and what resource can you name to gather that support?

Driftwood (ryuboku) and Space (sukima) Guiding Questions:

1. If your professional journey as a practitioner utilizing **sensory integrative processing (SIP) theories and approaches** was a river, what driftwood can you identify that is a part of the flow of your river?

What varieties of driftwood (resources & supports) do you access?

How do the spaces, opportunities to enhance flow become available for you?

2. What are the best supports to your practice? What have been your key learning moments? How do you deepen your practice? Are you a part of a learning community?

**A non-traditional KAWA element added for today:
Sunlight on the water (komorebi) Guiding Questions:**

What brings you glimmers and goosebumps? What light do you see that motivates you, brings you joy and illuminates your journey?

KAWA Reflective Sharing - Breakout Groups:

For YOUR OWN KAWA:

For your PROFESSION KAWA:

How has this symposium contributed to your overall KAWA- now that you have added all the elements?

What questions do you have now?

What has been clarified for you? For your thoughts about the profession?

What are the glimmers, hopes and aspirations for you, for the profession?

What are your hopes, dreams for you? For the profession?

What do you need from your colleagues? What do you need from the thought leaders?

What are your next steps?



THE KAWA MODEL: RESOURCES

Primary Resource:

<http://www.kawamodel.com/> • The Kawa Model Made Easy

FREE concise handbook:

<http://www.kawamodel.com/download/KawaMadeEasy2015.pdf>

- Original Kawa Model book: The Kawa Model: Culturally Relevant Occupational Therapy (2006) by M. K. Iwama
- Kawa Model Facebook Community: <https://www.facebook.com/KawaModel/>
- Published literature review related to the Kawa Model: Tripathi, N. S., Sweetman, M. S., & Zapf, S. A. (2017). Use of the Kawa model for culturally responsive occupation-based occupational therapy in India. *Indian Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 49(4), 148-153.

Thank You

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