If a child experiencing grief has one or more of the following items, they may qualify for occupational therapy services

Delay in developmental skills
Regression in previously mastered skills
Decreased safety awareness
Harmful grief reactions to self or others (aggression, hitting, kicking, screaming)
Decline in school performance (decreased memory, unable to focus)
Difficulty with executive functioning skills (problem solving, attention, impulse, decision making, self-control)
Sensory processing difficulties
Frequent meltdowns
Difficulty participate in daily activities

Referral Script For Occupational Therapy Services

Here is an example script to use when talking to parents about referrals to other types of therapy services. This script is just an example to help, and should not be used in every case.

""I've have noticed that (childs name) is having a rough time with dealing with the death of _____.

By interacting with the other kids I noticed that (childs name) (regression in skills, possible delay in skills, seem to have some issues with sensory processing, safety, impulse control playing attention. etc) which is completely normal and happens with children experiencing grief. I think it would be helpful to go check in with (childs name) doctor and possibly talk about other options such as occupational therapy services.

