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# Gestalt Therapy A Guide To Contemporary Practice

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## **Gestalt Therapy**

### **A Guide to Contemporary Practice**

*Springer Publishing Company*

This book is a practical, professional reference on the practice of Gestalt Therapy (GT) by Philip Brownell, a leading practitioner and scholar in the field. The book covers the philosophical basics of GT and contrasts it with various types of psychotherapeutic approaches. The book also provides guidelines on how to apply GT principles to therapeutic practice with clients. Lastly, the authors cover training on a post-graduate level, certification, and continuing education issues relevant for the practicing therapist. Key Features: Explains Martin Buber's use of "dialogue" in gestalt therapy and how to practice in a dialogical manner Compares and contrasts the features of a gestalt

system of diagnosis with Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM) Provides GT treatment planning and case management practices

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## **Gestalt Therapy**

## **100 Key Points and Techniques**

*Routledge*

Gestalt therapy offers a present-focused, relational approach, central to which is the fundamental belief that the client knows the best way of adjusting to their situation. By working to heighten awareness through dialogue and creative experimentation, gestalt therapists create the conditions for a client's personal journey to health. Gestalt Therapy: 100 Key Points and Techniques provides a concise guide to this flexible and far-reaching approach. Topics discussed include: the theoretical assumptions underpinning gestalt therapy gestalt assessment and process diagnosis field theory, phenomenology and dialogue ethics and values evaluation and research. As such this

book will be essential reading for gestalt trainees, as well as all counsellors and psychotherapists wanting to learn more about the gestalt approach.

## **Gestalt Group Therapy**

**A Practical Guide** *Createspace Independent Pub*

Gestalt Group Therapy is a profoundly human endeavor. Its practice touches every corner of the human condition. Bud Feder traverses this territory with a light touch and a gentle humor. But make no mistake, the territory he maps can be as treacherous as it can be rewarding, and the advice he shares is hard won from a lifetime of entering into the mysteries, surprises and challenges of the practice of Gestalt Group Therapy.

Bud brings a unique perspective to his work with groups – one that integrates a deeply democratic sensibility with an appreciation for the judicious exercise of the leader's authority. This integration helps bring the best of the gestalt therapy tradition into the realm of interactive, process-oriented group work promoting dialogical relationships among all group participants, members and leaders

## **Gestalt Therapy**

### **Advances in Theory and Practice** *Routledge*

The Gestalt approach is based on the philosophy that the human being is born with the healthy ability to regulate needs and wants in relationship with the

environment in which she/he lives. Heightening of personal awareness and exploration of needs is enabled by the therapist who actively engages in supporting and assisting the therapeutic journey of the client. Gestalt Therapy: Advances in Theory and Practice is a collaboration of some of the best thinkers in the Gestalt therapy approach. It offers a summary of recent advances in theory and practice, and novel ideas for future development. Each chapter focuses on a different element of the Gestalt approach and, with contributors from around the world, each offers a different perspective of its ongoing evolution in relation to politics, religion and philosophy. Incorporating ideas about community, field theory, family and couple therapy, politics and

spirituality, this book will be of interest not only to Gestalt therapists but also to non-Gestalt practitioners, counsellors, psychologists, psychiatrists and other mental health professionals. Counselling, behavioural science and psychotherapy students will also find this a valuable contribution to their learning.

## **Gestalt Therapy Practice**

### **Theory and Experiential Learning**

*Routledge*

This essential new book gives the reader an introduction to the fundamental concepts of gestalt therapy in a stimulating and accessible style. It supports the study and practice of gestalt therapy for clinicians of all backgrounds, reflecting a practice-based

pedagogy that emphasises experiential learning. The content in this book builds on the curriculum taught at the Norwegian Gestalt Institute University College (NGI). The material is divided into four main sections. In the first section, the theoretical basis for gestalt therapy is presented with references to gestalt psychology, field theory, phenomenology, and existential philosophy. In the later parts, central theoretical terms and practical models are discussed, such as the paradoxical theory of change, creative adjustment, self, contact, contact forms, awareness, polarities, and process models. Clinical examples illustrate the therapy form's emphasis on the relational meeting between therapist and client. Detailed description of gestalt therapy theory

from the time of the gestalt psychologists to today, with abundant examples from clinical practice, distinguishes this book from other texts. It will be of great value to therapists, coaches, and students of gestalt therapy.

### **Gestalt Therapy**

#### **Therapy of the Situation** *SAGE*

This seminal textbook on Gestalt therapy refreshes the theory of by revisiting its European roots. Taking the basic premise that people do the best they can in relation to their own situation, leading European therapist Georges Wollants explains Gestalt theory and provides a useful critique of commonly taught concepts. Each section

approaches a key area of psychotherapy theory in context, while chapter summaries, illustrations and worked-through case examples help to make the theory accessible to all those training in Gestalt therapy. Commentaries from current experts in different areas of Gestalt provide a balanced overview of Gestalt therapy today.

#### **Enchantment and Gestalt Therapy**

##### **Partners in Exploring Life** *Routledge*

Enchantment and Gestalt Therapy is a personal exploration of Erving Polster's remarkable career, the value of the Gestalt approach, and the power of enchantment in psychotherapy. Polster points ahead to a vision of a psychotherapy that includes the

population as a whole rather than focusing on individuals, highlights common aspects of living, and focuses on creating an ethos for a shared understanding. The book outlines the six Gestalt therapy concepts that have formed the basis of Polster's work and describes Life Focus Groups, with an emphasis on the communal relationship between tellers and listeners. Polster also describes the phenomenon of enchantment in psychotherapy in detail, with reference to his own experiences. This unique work is essential reading for Gestalt therapists, other professionals interested in Gestalt approaches, and readers looking for a deeper insight into community and connection.

### **The Gestalt Therapy Book**

**A Holistic Guide to the Theory, Principles, and Techniques of Gestalt Therapy Developed by Frederick S. Perls and Others** *Gestalt Journal Press*

### **The Gestalt Therapy Book**

**A Holistic Guide to the Theory, Principles, and Techniques of Gestalt Therapy Developed by Frederick S. Perls and Others**

**Handbook for Theory, Research, and Practice in Gestalt Therapy** *Cambridge Scholars Publishing*

Many books have been written about gestalt therapy. Not many have been written on the relationship between gestalt therapy and psychotherapy

research. The Handbook for Theory, Research, and Practice in Gestalt Therapy is a needed bridge between these two concerns, and a timely addition to scholarly literature on gestalt therapy itself. In 2007 an international team of experienced gestalt therapists devoted themselves to create this book, and they have collaborated with one another to produce a challenging and enriching addition to the literature relevant to gestalt therapy. The book discusses the philosophy of science, the need for research specifically focused on gestalt therapy, and the critical realism and natural attitude found in both research and gestalt praxis. It provides discussions of qualitative and quantitative research, describes the methods of gestalt therapy as based in a

unified theory, and illustrates the application of research in the contexts of emerging gestalt research communities. The discussion contained in this book is needed at a time when warrant for the practice of psychotherapy is increasingly sought in the empirical support available through psychotherapy research—the so called evidence-based movement—and at a time when public policy is increasingly driven by the call for "what works."

## **Gestalt Therapy**

### **Roots and Branches - Collected Papers** *Routledge*

There has been a renewed interest in the last ten years in the underpinnings - theoretical, philosophical, and historical - of the Gestalt approach. Often in the

past, these have been lost in oversimplified versions of the therapy. The author's aim in his writings has been to provide a full and coherent account of Gestalt theory, and to emphasise our links to our therapeutic and philosophical heritage, particularly psychoanalysis and existentialism. His theme is a field-relational theory of self as the centrepiece of the approach, and how this has been placed within a structure that is still recognisably psychoanalytic. In this approach, self is understood as meaningful only in relation to what is taken as other, and how that other is contacted. The formation of a relatively coherent self-concept is a task, not a given, and can be problematic as well as helpful (when it no longer supports the person's life-situation).

## **Gestalt Therapy**

### **History, Theory, and Practice** *SAGE Publications*

Gestalt Therapy: History, Theory, and Practice is an introductory text, written by major Gestalt theorists, that will engage those new to Gestalt therapy. Editors Ansel Woldt and Sarah M. Toman introduce the historical underpinnings and fundamental concepts of Gestalt therapy and illustrate applications of those concepts to therapeutic practice. The book is unique in that it is the first Gestalt text specifically designed for the academic and training institute settings. Gestalt Therapy takes both a conceptual and a practical approach to examining classic and cutting-edge constructs.

**Gestalt and Process****Clinical Diagnosis in Gestalt Therapy  
: a Field Guide****Skills in Gestalt Counselling &  
Psychotherapy** *SAGE*

This practical guide to the gestalt approach has successfully introduced thousands of trainee therapists to the essential skills needed in gestalt practice. The authors offer practical guidance on the entire process of therapy including setting up the therapeutic session, creating a working alliance, assessment and treatment direction, managing risk, supervision, adopting a research approach, and managing difficult encounters. The Fourth Edition has been updated to

include: Some implications of working in the twenty-first century, including working virtually Updated content on trauma An enhanced discussion of mindfulness and awareness New case examples and exercises Updated references and further reading

**Gestalt Therapy Around the World**  
*John Wiley & Sons*

The first internationally focused book on gestalt therapy to provide a comprehensive overview of current practice around the world. Features coverage of the history, training, theoretical contributions, and research initiatives relating to gestalt therapy in seventeen countries Points to future directions and challenges Includes extensive information on worldwide

gestalt associations, institutes, and professional societies that promote the development of the approach

UKCP-registered psychotherapist and senior lecturer at The Gestalt Centre, London.

### **Gestalt Counselling in a Nutshell**

*SAGE*

New to the bestselling Counselling in a Nutshell Series, this pocket-sized book is the beginners guide to the essentials of Gestalt Therapy, from its principles to practice. Assuming no previous knowledge of the subject, the book introduces: - the origins of the approach - the key theory and concepts - the skills and techniques important to practice. Written in an accessible, jargon-free style, this book includes vivid case examples, end of chapter exercises and a glossary of terms to help aid understanding. Gaie Houston is a writer,

### **The Gestalt Therapy Book**

**A Holistic Guide to the Theory, Principles, and Techniques of Gestalt Therapy Developed by Frederick S. Perls and Others**

### **Object Relations in Gestalt Therapy** *Routledge*

The author of *Personality Disorders: a Gestalt Therapy Perspective* proposes a revision of Perls, Hefferline and Goodman's *Theory of the Self* in a way that brings it closer to contemporary issues in the area of Personality Disorders. Understanding splitting and

projective identification that chronically lead to experiential impasses, is an essential feature of the psychotherapy of the more severe personality disorders. In order to do so within the Gestalt framework, the author integrates certain developmental concepts from object relations theory, especially those put forth by W.R.D. Fairbairn (1954). This revised developmental perspective leads to an Object Relational Gestalt Therapy, in which the here-and-now therapeutic relationship is related to the there-and-then of the developmental past, as well as to the there-and-now of the client's current life situation. This text contains the integral version of the author's doctoral thesis.

### **A Reader's Guide to Gestalt Therapy**

### **A Dissertation**

### **New Directions in Gestalt Group Therapy**

### **Relational Ground, Authentic Self** *Routledge*

Gestalt therapists often work with groups. Group therapists from a variety of theoretical orientations frequently incorporate insights and methodology from gestalt therapy. *New Directions in Gestalt Group Therapy: Relational Ground, Authentic Self* was written with particular attention to both gestalt and group work specialists in providing a comprehensive reference for the practice of group therapy from a gestalt perspective. It includes an introduction to gestalt therapy terms and concepts

written to make the gestalt approach understandable and accessible for mental health practitioners of all backgrounds. It is appropriate for students as well as seasoned psychotherapists. Peter Cole and Daisy Reese are the co-directors of the Sierra Institute for Contemporary Gestalt Therapy located in Berkeley, California. They are the co-authors of *Mastering the Financial Dimension of Your Psychotherapy Practice* and *True Self, True Wealth: A Pathway to Prosperity*. They are a married couple, with five children and four grandchildren between them.

### **Creative Process in Gestalt Therapy**

#### **Gestalt Therapy**

### **Excitement and Growth in the Human Personality**

First published in the USA in 1951.

#### **The Empty Chair**

### **Tales from Gestalt Therapy** *Routledge*

Through eight compelling stories we get to know the Gestalt therapist Vikram Kolmannskog and some of his clients. These include the businessman Carl who is suffering from chronic burnout, the overwhelmed Marianne who believes she may have been the victim of sexual assault, the trans woman Annette who breaks with dominant gender norms, the prisoner Jonny who is now encircled by his own self-made wall of isolation, and the beautiful Ask, who falls in love and

others fall in love with - including the therapist Vikram. Through these tales of psychotherapy we see how both suffering and healing can occur. With increased awareness and through dialogue we can experience more of ourselves, the other and our world. We become more whole - and that is a good definition of health.

## **Gestalt Therapy**

### **100 Key Points and Techniques** *Routledge*

Gestalt therapy offers a present-focused, relational approach, central to which is the fundamental belief that the client knows the best way of adjusting to their situation. By working to heighten awareness through dialogue and

creative experimentation, gestalt therapists create the conditions for a client's personal journey to health. Gestalt Therapy: 100 Key Points and Techniques provides a concise guide to this flexible and far-reaching approach. Topics discussed include: the theoretical assumptions underpinning gestalt therapy gestalt assessment and process diagnosis field theory, phenomenology and dialogue ethics and values evaluation and research. As such this book will be essential reading for gestalt trainees, as well as all counsellors and psychotherapists wanting to learn more about the gestalt approach.

### **Counselling and Therapy Techniques** **Theory & Practice** *SAGE*

This is the first book on counselling skills to look in detail at the practical interventions and tools used to establish the therapeutic relationship. Step-by-step, the text teaches the reader exactly how to use these skills with clients to address their concerns and achieve therapeutic change. Integrative and pluralistic in approach, the text covers the key techniques from all the major therapeutic models, placing them in their historical and theoretical contexts. Techniques covered include empathic responding, experiential focusing, Gestalt, metaphors, task-directed imagery, ego state therapy, solution focused therapy, cognitive behavioral therapy, narrative therapy and self-in-representation therapy. The book: - presents each technique from the

perspective of its underlying theory; - gives practical instruction on how to deliver each intervention; - provides extracts from counselling sessions to demonstrate the technique in action. This book is crucial reading for all trainees on counselling and psychotherapy courses or preparing to use counselling techniques in a range of other professional settings. It is also helpful for professionals who wish to acquire additional skills. Augustine Meier, certified clinical psychologist, professor Emeritus, Faculty of Human Sciences, Saint Paul University, Ottawa, Ontario and Founder and President of the Ottawa Institute for Object Relations Therapy. Micheline Boivin, certified clinical psychologist, Psychological Services of the Family, Youth and

Children's Program at the Centre for Health and Social Services, Gatineau, Québec.

## **Gestalt Therapy**

### **The Art of Contact** *Routledge*

Gestalt Therapy has been developing steadily for the last 50 years in America as well as in Europe. It is currently practiced in different settings: individual, group, and family therapies; personal growth; social, medical and business organizations. This book describes a specific French approach: a synthesis of French culture (greatly influenced by psychoanalysis) along with a mobilizing and interactive method, emphasizing the cycle of contact, evoking the emotions, the body and the right hemisphere of the

brain. This book is written mostly for beginners and for psychotherapy clients: it summarizes the central philosophy of this approach and the main techniques for the enrichment of contact. It includes sketches, charts, indexes, a glossary and a bibliography, which together comprise of a convenient tool. It also explains, in an accessible way, the latest discoveries concerning the brain (neurosciences), dreams and sexuality.

## **Gestalt Therapy Integrated**

### **Contours of Theory and Practice** *Vintage*

Surveys the concepts, objectives, and techniques of the action-oriented psychotherapy developed by Fritz Perls. Bibliogs

## **The Dreamer and the Dream**

### **Essays and Reflections on Gestalt Therapy** *CRC Press*

In this collection of papers and lectures from the late Rainette Fantz, we witness firsthand the exhilarating possibilities inherent in the Gestalt therapy model. Frantz brings her background in theater to bear on her remarkable work as a therapist and teacher-work marked by delightful imagination, striking improvisation, and aesthetic beauty. The insights contained in these chapters illuminate everything from the intricacies of an opening session to the theoretical foundations of Gestalt dreamwork, and Frantz's candid style invites the reader to explore with her the joys and sorrows of a career as a Gestalt therapist.

## **Gestalt Psychotherapy and Coaching for Relationships** *Routledge*

Gestalt Psychotherapy and Coaching for Relationships provides psychotherapists and coaches with a thorough understanding of two-person dynamics and offers practical interventions for working with couples and with two-person teams within larger organizations. Part I of this text relates contemporary gestalt therapy theory and gestalt-based coaching to developments in phenomenology, hermeneutics, cognitive science, extended cognition, embodiment, and kinesthesiology. Through a variety of narratives, Part II builds upon these themes and examines issues that typically emerge during couples work, including infidelity, provocative

language, asymmetric relationships, sex, the use of emotion, limits and boundaries, and spirituality. Also included are general strategies for assimilating coaching into psychotherapy and vice versa, as well as recommendations for further study.

### **The Voice of Shame**

#### **Silence and Connection in Psychotherapy** *Taylor & Francis*

Shame and shame reactions are two of the most delicate and difficult issues of psychotherapy and are among the most likely to defy our usual dynamic, systemic, and behavioral theories. In this groundbreaking new collection, *The Voice of Shame*, thirteen distinguished authors show how use of the Gestalt

model of self and relationship can clarify the dynamics of shame and lead us to fresh approaches and methods in this challenging terrain. This model shows how shame issues become pivotal in therapeutic and other relationships and how healing shame is the key to transformational change. The contributors show how new perspectives on shame gained in no particular area transfer and generalize to other areas and settings. In so doing, they transform our fundamental understanding of psychotherapy itself. Grounded in the most recent research on the dynamics and experience of shame, this book is a practical guide for all psychotherapists, psychologists, clinicians, and others interested in self, psychotherapy, and relationship. This book contains powerful

new insights for the therapist on a full-range of topics from intimacy in couples to fathering to politics to child development to gender issues to negative therapeutic reactions. Filled with anecdotes and case examples as well as practical strategies, *The Voice of Shame* will transform your ideas about the role of shame in relationships - and about the potential of the Gestalt model to clarify and contextualize other approaches.

**Towards a Research Tradition in Gestalt Therapy** *Cambridge Scholars Publishing*

Gestalt therapy is well-grounded in its daily practice, but is a field which is still in the process of developing a research tradition to support this practice. Gestalt

practitioner researchers devote themselves to the generation of interest in the field, the enlargement of capacities and expertise, and the sharing of research projects and their findings. The larger Gestalt community realises that such research has begun to take place, but it requires more information and to be brought into the conversation through a book that speaks of philosophy and method and actually shares some of the research that emerges. This volume fills this lacuna, collecting for the first time the theoretical grounds for research in Gestalt therapy, and introduces useful research methods and presents actual research projects to provide inspiration to Gestalt practitioner researchers. The book will be helpful not only to Gestalt

therapists interested in research, but also to students of Gestalt therapy involved in training, as it will serve to bolster their own academic performance. It will also be of interest to the larger field of psychotherapy research, in demonstrating how a clinical school based on principles such as existential dialogue, phenomenology and field theory is responding to the need for evidence-based practice, and is keeping pace with the needs of a twenty-first century professional community.

### **Buddhist Psychology and Gestalt Therapy Integrated**

#### **Psychotherapy for the 21st Century**

This groundbreaking book points the way to an expansive and comprehensive

psychotherapy approach in its integration of Buddhist psychology and Gestalt therapy. The authors establish the essential convergences of Buddhist psychology and mindfulness with Gestalt therapy theory and method, and creatively explore the clinical implications of these and their relevance in psychotherapeutic work. These convergences, as well as the recognition of the two systems' differences in focus and ultimate aims, then serve as the foundation for a Buddhist psychology informed Gestalt therapy (BPGT). This innovative integration offers a new perspective while also maintaining the holistic integrity of each system. Here, the book lays out how Buddhist psychology's universal view and Gestalt therapy's focus on the individual and

relational can work synergistically in addressing the fundamental ground of human suffering. Clinical vignettes throughout the book bring the concepts and methods to life, offering clear examples of how these can be implemented. This book's heart, wisdom, and deeply relational holistic perspective on the therapeutic endeavor can offer psychotherapists of any stripe an enriched clinical understanding, and the "how to" for putting this understanding into practice.

### **Christianity and Gestalt Therapy**

#### **The Presence of God in Human Relationships** *Routledge*

Christianity and Gestalt Therapy is a unique integration written for

psychotherapists who want to better understand their Christian clients and Christian counselors who want a clinically sound approach that embraces Christian spirituality. This book explores critical concepts in phenomenology and how they relate to both gestalt therapy and Christianity. Using mixed literary forms that include poetry and story, this book provides a window into gestalt therapy for Christian counselors interested in learning how the gestalt therapeutic model can be incorporated into their beliefs and practices. It explores the tension in psychology and psychotherapy between a rigid naturalism and an enchanted take on life. A rich mix of theory, philosophy, theology, and practice, Christianity and Gestalt Therapy is an important resource

for therapists working with Christian patients.

## **Pastoral Counseling**

### **A Gestalt Approach** *Routledge*

This contemporary counseling approach seamlessly meshes with pastoral theology! Gestalt therapy is designed to be simple, free of jargon, and emotionally liberating--ideal for pastoral counseling in the context of a variety of faiths. This primer is designed to give pastors and rabbis a working knowledge of the basic techniques and attitudes pioneered by Dr. Fritz Perls. *Pastoral Counseling: A Gestalt Approach* shows how this holistic approach, with its emphasis on the here and now, is a natural counterpoint to pastoral

theology. This comprehensive book gives specific instructions on using Gestalt techniques to increase the depth of the pastoral care and counseling you provide. *Pastoral Counseling* explains the basic goals of Gestalt work, which are to achieve spontaneity and expressiveness and to move toward personal authenticity. It also reveals how you can employ these techniques to help you and your congregation move toward realizing your God-given potential. *Pastoral Counseling* illustrates Gestalt theories from several perspectives, including: theory and techniques case studies a folk tale session transcripts a sermon *Pastoral Counseling* guides you toward a broader understanding of the simple power of the holistic approach. Pastors and priests, rabbis, and other

members of the clergy who engage in counseling will find its simple wisdom refreshing amidst the desert of dry theory. Gestalt counselors will find its pastoral perspective enlightening in their work with clients.

### **From the Radical Center**

#### **The Heart of Gestalt Therapy** *Taylor & Francis*

This remarkable collection traces central themes in the work of Erving and Miriam Polster, two of the best-known and best loved Gestalt therapists in the world. The writings herein span 4 decades in the history of psychotherapy, bringing together practical, theoretical and aesthetic dimensions of the Polsters' work in a single book. Ranging across

diverse subjects and distinct historical periods, the work collected in this volume will educate, provoke, inspire and nourish Gestalt therapists for years to come.

### **Aggression, Time, and Understanding**

#### **Contributions to the Evolution of Gestalt Therapy** *CRC Press*

Aggression, Time, and Understanding is the first book of Staemmler's writings to be published in English. In the early sections of this book, Staemmler (supported by his Buddhist wife, Barbara) comprehensively explores and questions the traditional Gestalt therapy theory of aggression and proposes a new approach to working with anger and

hostility. Further sections include in-depth examinations of the topics of time (the "Here and Now" and "Regressive Processes") and understanding ("Dialogue and Interpretation" and "Cultivated Uncertainty"). From Staemmler's "critical gaze," Dan Bloom observes, "concepts emerge as refreshed, re-formed, and revitalized constructs so we can continue to develop the theory and practice of contemporary Gestalt therapy."

**Gestalt Therapy for Addictive and Self-Medicating Behaviors** *Springer Publishing Company*

This volume describes the most current gestalt approaches to treating substance abuse and other self-medicating behaviors by a leading practitioner and

scholar in the field. It is based on the gestalt view of the self-medicating dynamic as one of pattern repetition and difficulty overcoming rigid patterns of response to sensory experience and life's routine demands. The book provides a practical model for helping clients with the gamut of self-medicating behaviors-substance and alcohol abuse, overeating, gambling, overworking, rage, and others-and describes a recovery program as a system created to change one's lifestyle over time through the development of disciplines that ultimately shape one's life. The volume will also be helpful to therapists in other modalities as an alternative therapy when treating self-medicating clients, as well as a spiritual alternative to the 12-step approach. Key Features:

Applies current gestalt therapy approaches to the spectrum of addictive behaviors Provides practical treatment models for self-medicating behaviors Written by a prominent practitioner and scholar of gestalt therapy Offers a spiritual alternative to the 12-step approach to recovery

### **Windowframes**

**Learning the Art of Gestalt Play Therapy the Oaklander Way** *CRC Press*

How do children emotionally heal and regain equilibrium after suffering trauma? How do adults understand and help them in a therapeutic relationship? These questions are at the heart of Violet Oaklander's approach to play therapy and her methods for training adults to work with children and adolescents. In this text, Peter Mortola uses qualitative and narrative methods of analysis to document and detail Oaklander's work in a two-week summer training attended by child therapists from around the world.