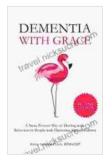
A New, Positive Way of Dealing with Behaviors in People with Dementia: The Eden Alternative Model

The Eden Alternative Model is a new, positive way of dealing with behaviors in people with dementia. It focuses on creating a home-like environment that is safe, supportive, and nurturing. The Eden Alternative Model believes that people with dementia can still live full and meaningful lives, even in the face of their cognitive challenges.



Dementia With Grace: A New, Positive Way of Dealing with Behaviors in People with Dementia, Second

Edition by Vicky Noland Fitch

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The Eden Alternative Model was developed by Dr. Bill Thomas in the early 1990s. Dr. Thomas was a geriatrician who was frustrated with the traditional medical model of care for people with dementia. He believed that this model was too focused on treating the symptoms of dementia, rather than the whole person.

Dr. Thomas's vision for the Eden Alternative Model was to create a care environment that would be more like a home than a hospital. He wanted to create a place where people with dementia would feel safe, respected, and loved. He believed that this type of environment would help to reduce the negative behaviors that are often associated with dementia.

The Eden Alternative Model has been shown to be effective in reducing behaviors in people with dementia. A study published in the Journal of the American Geriatrics Society found that people with dementia who lived in Eden Alternative homes experienced a significant reduction in their behavioral symptoms. The study also found that the Eden Alternative Model was cost-effective, as it reduced the need for medications and other interventions.

The Eden Alternative Model is a promising new approach to caring for people with dementia. It is a person-centered approach that focuses on creating a home-like environment that is safe, supportive, and nurturing. The Eden Alternative Model has been shown to be effective in reducing behaviors in people with dementia, and it is a cost-effective approach to care.

The Principles of the Eden Alternative Model

The Eden Alternative Model is based on ten principles:

- 1. **Create a home-like environment.** People with dementia need to feel safe and secure in their environment. This means creating a space that is familiar and comfortable, and that meets their individual needs.
- 2. **Provide person-centered care.** Each person with dementia is unique, and their care should be tailored to their individual needs and

preferences. This means getting to know the person well, and understanding their life story, their values, and their goals.

- 3. **Empower people with dementia.** People with dementia should be given the opportunity to make choices and participate in their own care. This helps them to maintain their sense of independence and dignity.
- Reduce the use of medications. Medications should only be used when necessary, and should be used in the lowest possible doses. Over-medication can lead to side effects that can worsen the symptoms of dementia.
- 5. **Provide meaningful activities.** People with dementia need to have opportunities to engage in meaningful activities that are enjoyable and stimulating. This can help to improve their cognitive function and their overall well-being.
- 6. Create a community of care. People with dementia need to feel connected to others. This means creating a sense of community within the care environment, and involving family, friends, and volunteers in their care.
- 7. **Respect the rights of people with dementia.** People with dementia have the same rights as everyone else. This means respecting their privacy, their dignity, and their right to make decisions about their own care.
- 8. Educate staff and family members. Staff and family members need to be educated about the Eden Alternative Model and how to provide person-centered care. This helps to ensure that everyone is working

together to create a positive and supportive environment for people with dementia.

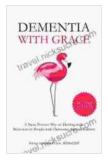
- 9. Advocate for change. The Eden Alternative Model is a new approach to caring for people with dementia. It is important to advocate for change in order to make this model the standard of care for people with dementia.
- 10. **Be hopeful.** People with dementia can still live full and meaningful lives. It is important to be hopeful and to believe in the potential of people with dementia.

The Benefits of the Eden Alternative Model

The Eden Alternative Model has a number of benefits for people with dementia, including:

- Reduced behavioral symptoms
- Improved cognitive function
- Increased well-being
- Reduced need for medications
- Improved quality of life

The Eden Alternative Model is a promising new approach to caring for people with dementia. It is a person-centered approach that focuses on creating a home-like environment that is safe, supportive, and nurturing. The Eden Alternative Model has been shown to be effective in reducing behaviors in people with dementia, and it is a cost-effective approach to care.

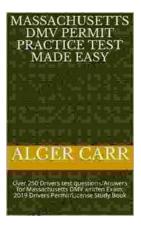


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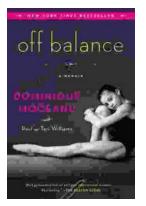
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