

Hospitals get vintage makeover to help dementia

24th September, 2019



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Hospitals in the United Kingdom are adapting to help people who suffer from dementia. Many hospitals have undergone a "vintage makeover" to make dementia patients feel more relaxed and to help trigger memories about the past. The makeover includes

creating tea rooms (old-style cafes) that look the same as those from the 1950s; a small movie theatre where patients can watch old black and white films from yesteryear; and a 1950s-themed "memory room" full of furniture and artwork from the 1950s. The UK's National Health Service (NHS) said the "dementia-friendly adaptations" could help patients to cope with stress by relaxing in familiar surroundings that could bring back happy memories.

Dementia is a term for diseases and conditions that involve a decline in memory. It is also accompanied by a deterioration in language ability, problem-solving and other thinking skills. The condition greatly affects a person's ability to perform everyday activities. Alzheimer's is the most common cause of dementia. The World Health Organization estimates there to be 46.8 million people worldwide living with dementia. Someone in the world develops it every three seconds. The NHS believes its makeover facilities will help dementia patients. It said: "Having a dementia-friendly place to stay may help patients adjust better to their surroundings, lessen the likelihood of falls and reduce their reliance on medicine."

Sources: standard.co.uk / thecanary.co / wikipedia.org

Writing

The biggest part of a government's budget should be mental health care. Discuss.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

hospitals / dementia / vintage / makeover / tea room / yesteryear / furniture / happy / diseases / memory / language ability / worldwide / three seconds / patients / reliance

True / False

- a) The article said UK hospitals are adopting people with dementia. T / F
- b) A vintage makeover in hospitals could help patients recall old memories. T / F
- c) A hospital is showing patients old black and white movies. T / F
- d) A hospital has a room full of old furniture for dementia patients. T / F
- e) Dementia can lead to a loss of language ability. T / F
- f) The article says old age is the biggest cause of dementia. T / F
- g) Every 30 seconds, someone in the world develops dementia. T / F
- h) The hospitals expect to use more medicine with dementia patients. T / F

Synonym Match

(The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------|
| 1. adapting | a. the old days |
| 2. makeover | b. setting |
| 3. trigger | c. dependence |
| 4. yesteryear | d. set off |
| 5. surroundings | e. source |
| 6. term | f. changing |
| 7. decline | g. gets |
| 8. cause | h. deterioration |
| 9. develops | i. new look |
| 10. reliance | j. word |

Discussion – Student A

- a) What do you know about dementia?
- b) How can we help people with dementia?
- c) What do you think of the vintage makeover idea?
- d) How worried are you about developing dementia?
- e) Does thinking about the past make you happy?
- f) What are your happiest memories of the past?
- g) What do you think of black and white movies?
- h) How do you cope with stress?

Phrase Match

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. help people who suffer | a. artwork from the 1950s |
| 2. black and white films | b. happy memories |
| 3. furniture and | c. it every three seconds |
| 4. help patients to cope | d. cause of dementia |
| 5. bring back | e. from dementia |
| 6. Dementia is a term for diseases | f. on medicine |
| 7. accompanied by a deterioration in | g. and conditions |
| 8. Alzheimer's is the most common | h. with stress |
| 9. Someone in the world develops | i. language ability |
| 10. reduce their reliance | j. from yesteryear |

Discussion – Student B

- What do you think about what you read?
- How would a decline in memory affect someone's life?
- Do you know anyone with dementia?
- How would you help someone you loved with dementia?
- What do you know about Alzheimer's?
- How can scientists make Alzheimer's a thing of the past?
- What is your idea of a 'dementia-friendly space'?
- What questions would you like to ask the hospital bosses?

Spelling

- help rgtrgei memories
- black and white films from ateeyryers
- a 1950s-mehdet "memory room"
- full of iunuefrr and artwork
- dementia-friendly tdtsaniaapo
- by relaxing in liiafamr surroundings
- diseases and ndiooticns
- a inceled in memory
- a oeoniertdirat in language ability
- teetsisma there to be 46.8 million
- its makeover jiefltsaic
- reduce their ielranec on medicine

Answers – Synonym Match

1. f	2. i	3. d	4. a	5. b
6. j	7. h	8. e	9. g	10. c

Role Play

Role A – Family

You think family is the best thing to help with dementia. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't as helpful. Also, tell the others which is the least useful of these (and why): medicine, reminders of the past or reading.

Role B – Medicine

You think medicine is the best thing to help with dementia. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't as helpful. Also, tell the others which is the least useful of these (and why): family, reminders of the past or reading.

Role C – Reminders of the Past

You think reminders of the past are the best things to help with dementia. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't as helpful. Also, tell the others which is the least useful of these (and why): medicine, family or reading.

Role D – Reading

You think reading is the best thing to help with dementia. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't as helpful. Also, tell the others which is the least useful of these (and why): medicine, reminders of the past or family.

Speaking – Dementia

Rank these with your partner. Put the things to best help with dementia at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- | | |
|-------------|-------------------------|
| • Family | • Doctors |
| • Hospitals | • Reminders of the past |
| • Friends | • Old movies |
| • Medicine | • Reading |

Answers – True False

a	F	b	T	c	T	d	T	e	T	f	F	g	F	h	F
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.