



# BRAIN FRIENDLY EDUCATION

NORWALK PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
TITLE I  
TONY DITRIO

# What is Brain-Based Teaching?

It's E-S-P!

*the Purposeful*  
**Engagement**

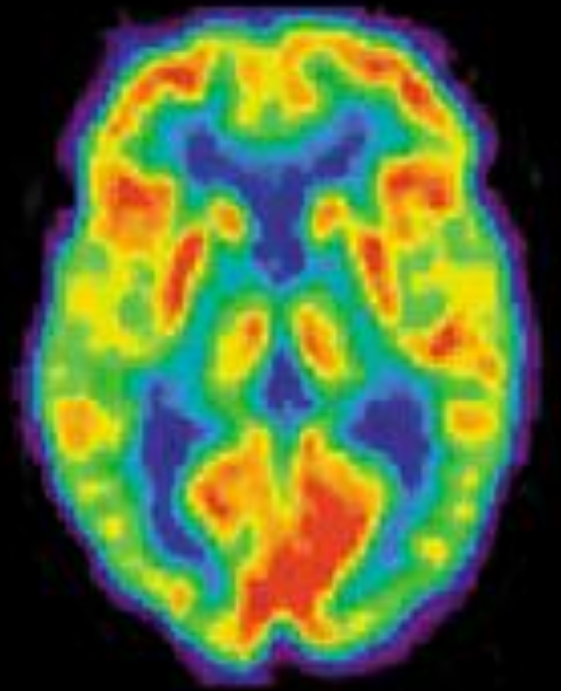
*of effective*  
**Strategies**

*derived from*  
**Principles** *of*  
*cognitive neuroscience*



- We've learned more about the brain in the last 10 years than in the previous 100 years!
- Over 255 brain journals now published!
- 37,000 scientists from 62 countries produce countless studies daily.
- Have you noticed the news?

Neuroscience  
is Exploding!





**Newsweek**

# FIXING YOUR BRAIN

BIONIC  
EYES  
& EARS

HIGH-TECH  
ALZHEIMER'S  
TREATMENTS

REWIRING  
DOCTORS



**Newsweek**

# THE NEW SCIENCE OF THE BRAIN

Why  
Men and  
Women  
Think  
Differently



Ultimate Guide  
Playing the Gender Card

**U.S. News** & WORLD REPORT

# BABY TALK

New research  
shows the amazing  
ways children  
master language  
and how it wires  
their brains

CDs New Troubles  
Monica's Second Start

**Newsweek**

EXCLUSIVE  
Oklahoma City:  
A Bizarre Defense

# YOUR CHILD'S BRAIN

How Kids  
Are Wired  
for Music,  
Math &  
Emotions

By SHARON BEGLEY

# TIME

**SPECIAL REPORT**  
**HOW A  
CHILD'S  
BRAIN  
DEVELOPS**

And what it means for  
child care and welfare reform

# TIME

**SECRETS  
OF  
THE  
TEEN  
BRAIN**

Research is revolutionizing our  
view of the adolescent mind—and  
explaining its mystifying ways

**TROY:  
THE MAKING  
OF AN EPIC**

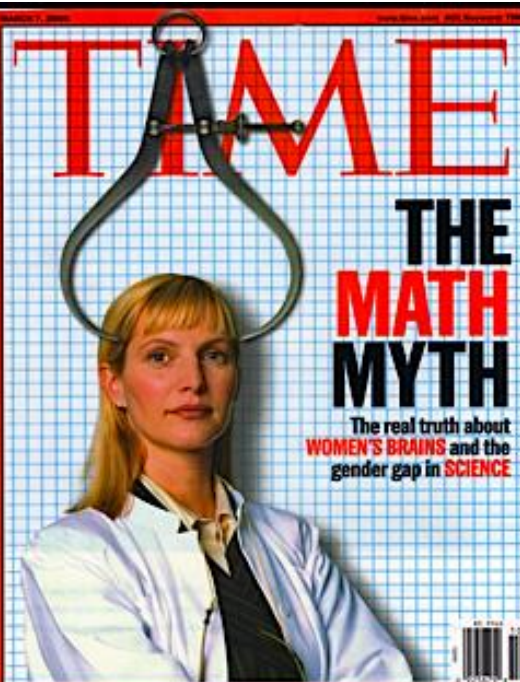


KILLER TRUCKS: THE DANGER TO MOTORISTS

U.S. News  
A WORLD REPORT

# How Kids Learn

Faster than  
you think—  
but don't  
push too  
hard



The real truth about  
WOMEN'S BRAINS and the  
gender gap in SCIENCE

MONICA'S SHAKE-UP • BINGE DRINKING • WORLD CUP  
**Newsweek**

# How Memory Works



...And  
What  
You Can  
Do to  
Improve  
Yours

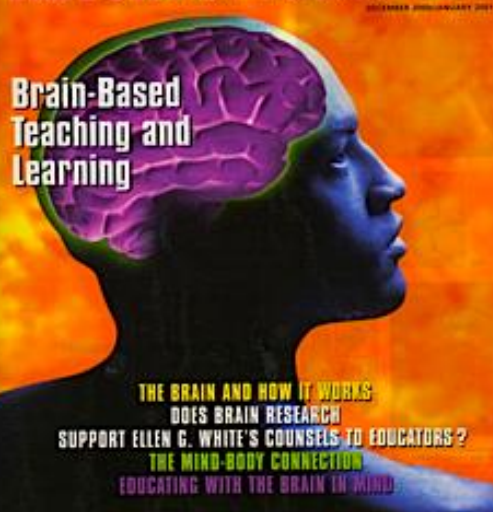


MIND & BODY SPECIAL ISSUE

THE MYSTERY OF CONSCIOUSNESS By Steven Pinker • HOW THE BRAIN REWIRES ITSELF By Sharon Begley  
SIX WAYS TO HANDLE STRESS By Christine Gorman • THE NATURE OF MEMORY By Michael S. Gazzaniga



# Adventist Education



Brain-Based  
Teaching and  
Learning

THE BRAIN AND HOW IT WORKS:  
DOES BRAIN RESEARCH  
SUPPORT ELLEN G. WHITE'S COUNSELS TO EDUCATORS?  
THE MIND-BODY CONNECTION  
EDUCATING WITH THE BRAIN IN MIND

WWII'S FORGOTTEN FRONT • THE STONES OPEN UP

**Newsweek**

# Your Baby's Brain



NEW RESEARCH  
From Jealousy  
To Joy: How  
Science Is  
Unlocking the  
Inner Lives  
Of Infants



Student  
Achievement  
*(this is how our  
success is  
measured)*



1



# Understanding Effect Sizes

Effect size is a standardized measure of the *relative size of the gain (or loss)* of an intervention.

**0.00 or less = Negative effect**

**0.00 – 0.20 = Negligible, unclear effects**

**0.20 – 0.40 = Small-moderate effects**

**0.40 – 0.60 = Strong effects**

**0.60 – 2.00 = Extreme positive effects**

These are just one way of understanding the value of educational/classroom factors. There are others.

# Our Criteria for Quick Gains in Student Achievement: 5 Factors

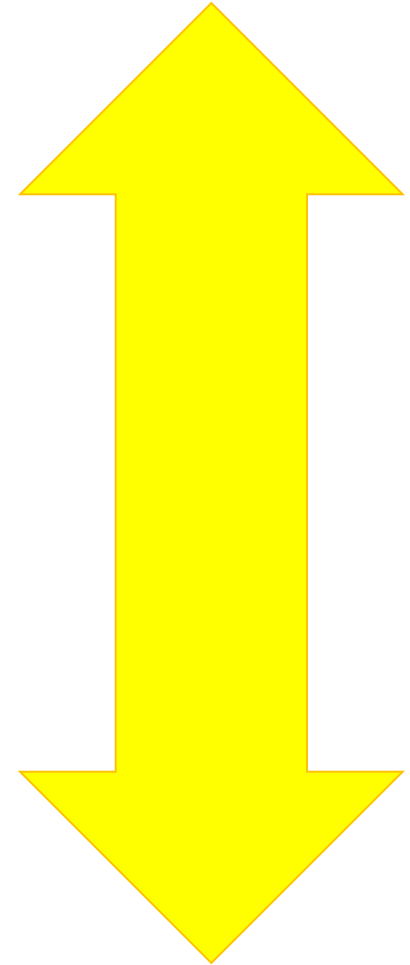
- ✓ Effect size of (0.50 or greater)
- ✓ Peer-reviewed scientific research
- ✓ In the top 15 of multiple meta-studies
- ✓ School-based implementation evidence
- ✓ Cost effective: cheap/free to implement quickly, with low-mod. skill set needed.





# Rank these: the Highest to the Lowest Impact on Student Learning

1. Student self-assessment
2. Ongoing formative evaluations
3. Reciprocal teaching
4. Classroom climate
5. Teacher clarity
6. Feedback (in both directions)
7. Teacher-student relationships
8. Spaced vs. massed content
9. Cognitive skill building
10. Not labelling students
11. Socioeconomic status
12. Parental involvement



# Know What Matters Most

**Student prediction of their grades (1.44 - 1)**

**Instructional climate (.80 – 6)**

**Teacher clarity (.75 – 8)**

**Reciprocal/peer teaching (.74 – 9)**

**Feedback (to students & teachers) (.73 –10)**

**Student-teacher relationships (.72 –11)**

**Teach meta-cognitive strategies (.69 –13)**

**Socioeconomic status of student (.57 – 32)**

**Class size (.21 –106)**

**Ability grouping of your students (.12 –121)**

**Teacher subject matter knowledge (.09 –125)**



# Visible Achievement Factors in Every Class

1. Student engagement
2. Hope and growth mindset
3. Feedback (plus formative & summative assessment)
4. Relationships (multi-level)
5. Cognitive skill-building





# **“High Return” Achievement Factor: Student Engagement**

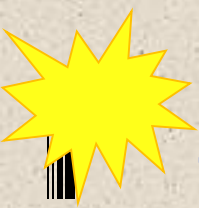
**Student engagement is a “top 15” factor in nearly every comprehensive study.**

- Appleton, J. J., Christenson, S. L. and Furlong, M. J. (2008), Student engagement with school: Critical conceptual and methodological issues of the construct. *Psychology in the Schools*, 45: 369–386.
- Ladd, Gary and Dinella, Lisa (2009) Continuity and Change in Early School Engagement: Predictive of Children's Achievement Trajectories From First to Eighth Grade? *Journal of Educational Psychology* Volume 101, Issue 1, Pages 190-206.
- Marks, H. (2000) Student Engagement in Instructional Activity: Patterns in the Elementary, Middle, and High School Years. *American Educational Research Journal*, Vol. 37, No. 1, 153-184 (2000).
- Shernoff, D., Csikszentmihalyi, M., Schneider, B. and Shernoff, E.S. (2003, Summer) Student engagement in high school classrooms from the perspective of flow theory. *School Psychology Quarterly*, 18(2):158-76.

# Effects of Engagement

- ✓ Builds Student Effort
- ✓ Supports Instructional Climate
- ✓ Helps Attentional Focus
- ✓ Boosts 3-1 Emotional Ratio
- ✓ Reduces Behavior Issues





# **The Seven Engagement Factors**

- 1. Health and nutrition.**
- 2. Vocabulary.**
- 3. Effort and energy.**
- 4. Mind set.**
- 5. Cognitive capacity.**
- 6. Relationships.**
- 7. Stress level.**





50-60%  
Teacher &  
School Quality



10% Misc.  
Influences



30-40% Genes  
(Some are  
modifiable)



How  
Much Do  
Teachers  
Matter?

# What Research Tells Us About the Effects of Poverty on Student Achievement

**RANGE:** effects change w/ grade level (from **0.10** to **0.76**)

(Howley, 1996) and Wenglinsky, H. (2002).

**AVERAGE:** The average effect size of SES is **0.57** with a ranking of **32<sup>nd</sup>** out of **138** factors.

Hattie, JA (2009) Visible Learning



*How Would Your Staff  
Rank the Strength of Each  
of these 3 Effects on  
Student Achievement?*



**KID'S HOME  
LIFE**



**TEACHER  
QUALITY**



**SCHOOL  
QUALITY**



# Build Vocabulary Every Single Day

1. Use words that: 1) are on the tests and 2) get their attention.
2. Have a "Word for the Day."
3. Student get credit for sharing their weekly word with 3 others.
4. Writing assignments w/ new words.
5. Kids say, "Caught you!" for word recognition games w/ teacher.
6. Double credit for kids speaking or writing the new word.
7. Teacher role models complex words.
8. Give examples they can use as adults in everyday life.



# Formative Assessment Factors and Their Related Effect Sizes

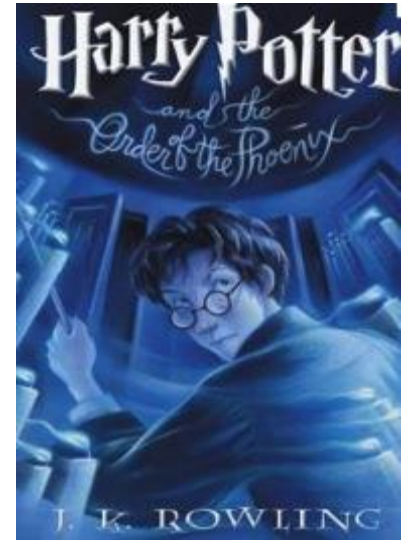
*Effect sizes below .40 are considered minimal*

- diagnosis feedback .52
- mastery learning (which is based on feedback) .50
- remediation and feedback .65
- corrective feedback .94
- feedback and reinforcement of learning 1.13



# Stick with What Works

**For reading:** 1) assess early, 2) skill-building interventions over months and years, 3) use very high-interest reading, and 4) build vocabulary constantly, and 5) build working memory.



**For math:** 1) connect to real world 2) teach estimation and numeracy 3) build working memory skills, 4) build mindset.

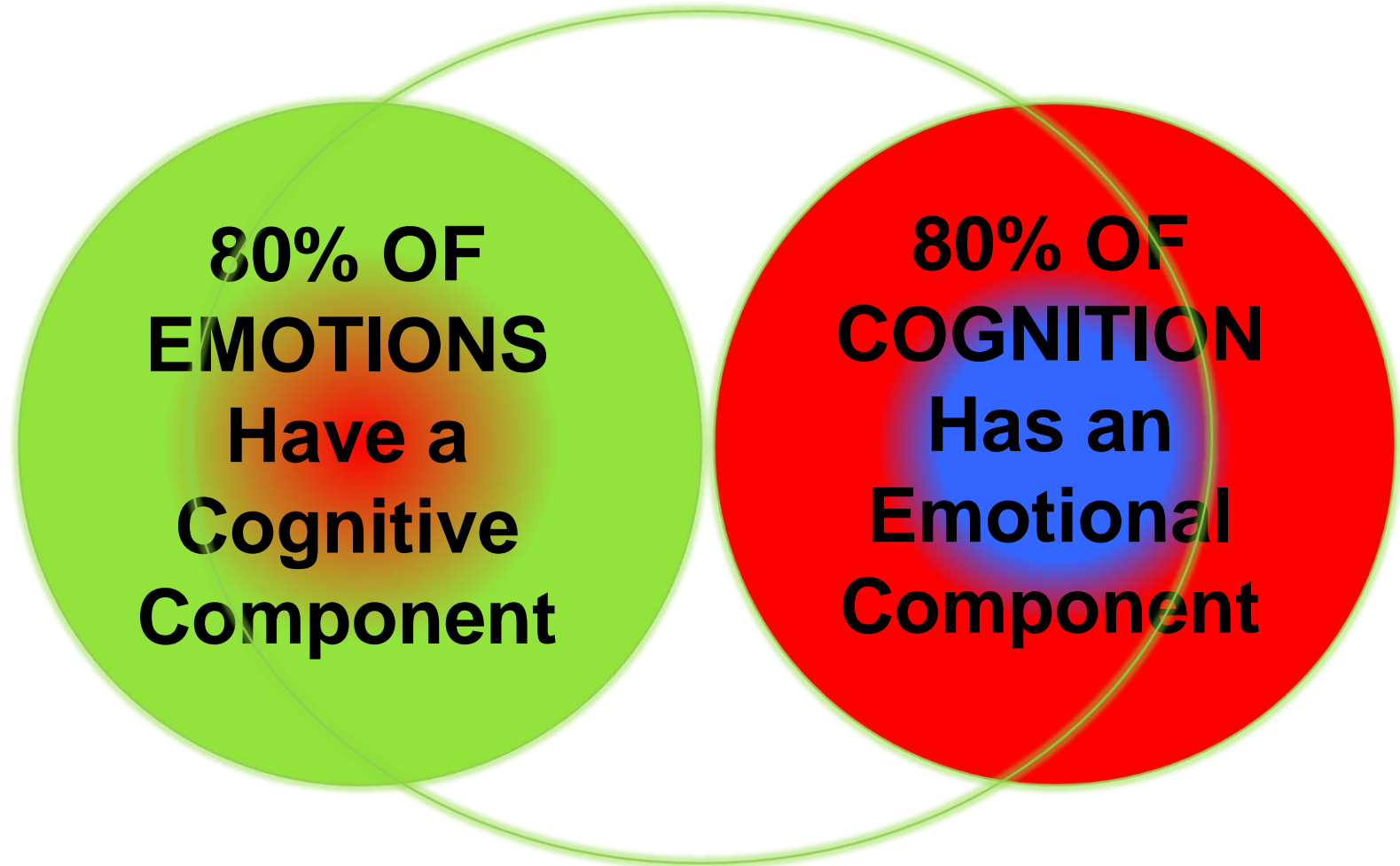




## Value of Classroom Climate

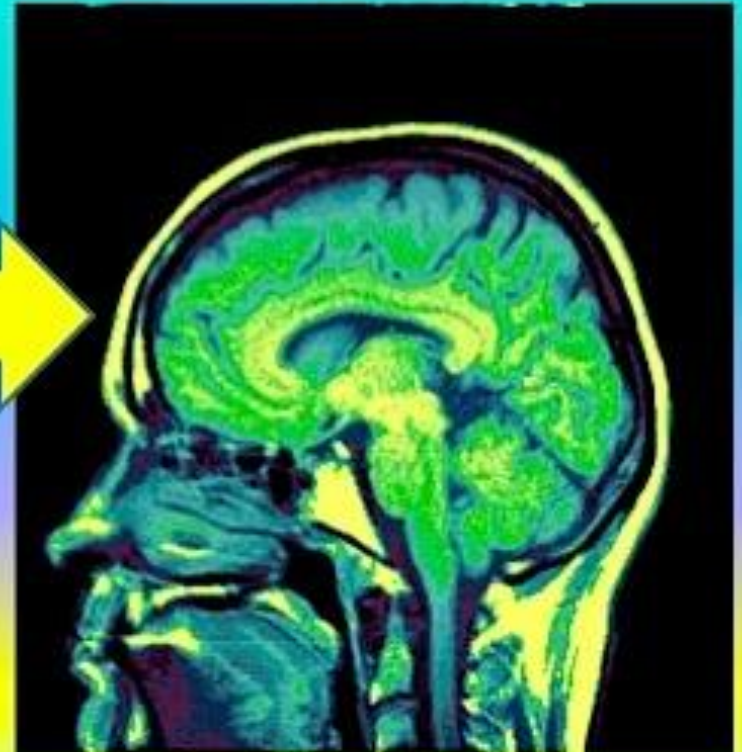
- Student motivation = 0.48
- Well-managed classroom = 0.52
- Growth mindset = 0.56
- Heightened engagement = 0.62
- Situational awareness = 0.71
- Students accept feedback better 0.90
- Appropriate teacher mental set = 1.29
- Teacher "With it-ness" = 1.42

# Cognition and Emotions Overlap



# Student Cognition and Behavior

Prefrontal Cortex is Driven by Genetic and Environmental Changes to Develop Executive Function



Inhibition  
Flexibility  
Self-Control  
Initiation



Organize  
Reasoning  
Planning  
Judgment

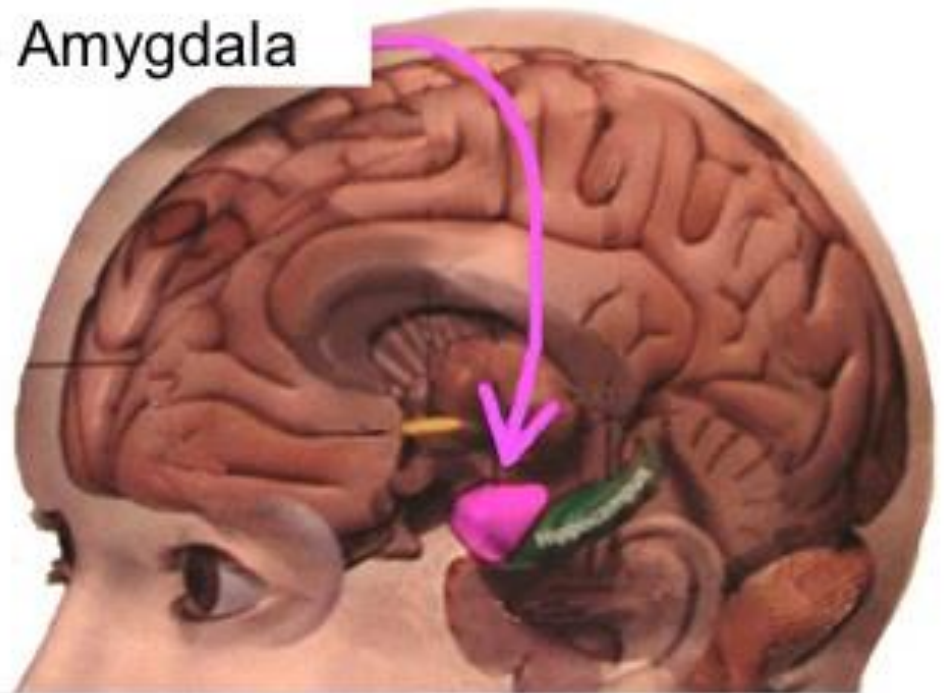


Self-Monitoring  
Delayed Gratification  
Risk analysis  
Reflection



# Fight, Flight or Freeze?

Once the amygdala is activated in class, it takes *at least 30 – 90 minutes* to calm down for quality learning.



Threats, insults, put-downs and sarcasm activate the amygdala



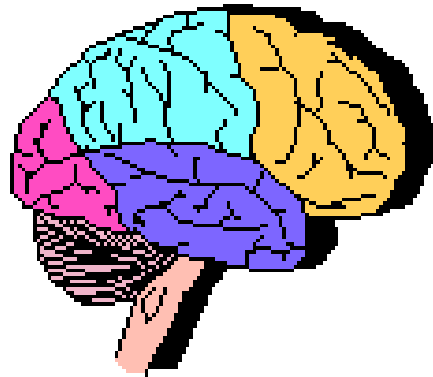
# How Important are "Gaudy Goals" for Your Student's Achievement?

Student expectations are MASSIVE **1.44**. Teacher expectations of student success are a staggering **1.03** effect size. *Raise the bar until you gasp for air! Stop being afraid to fail. Your staff can feel your fear!*





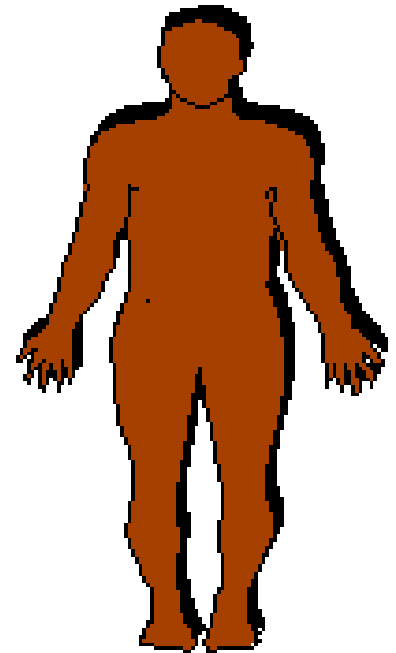
**Cognition**



**Emotions**



**Movement**

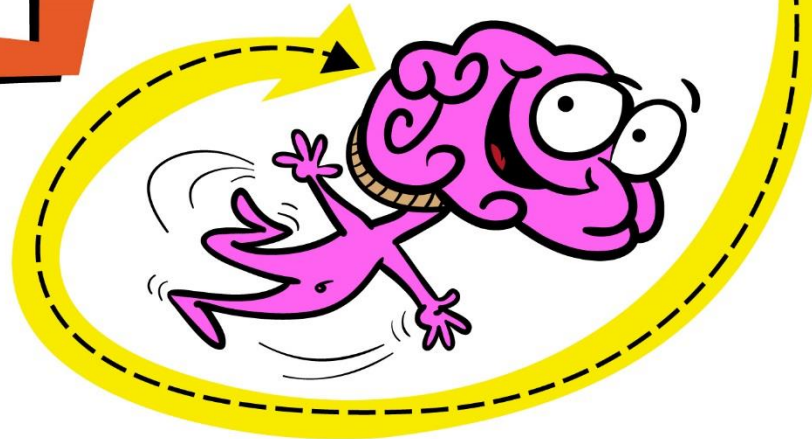


**The separation model is NOT supported  
by recent brain research**

**MOVING  
UP**



**MOVING  
AROUND**



**KEEPS THE BRAIN  
& BODY SOUND**



Many educators are unaware that early physical activity supports later academic activity.

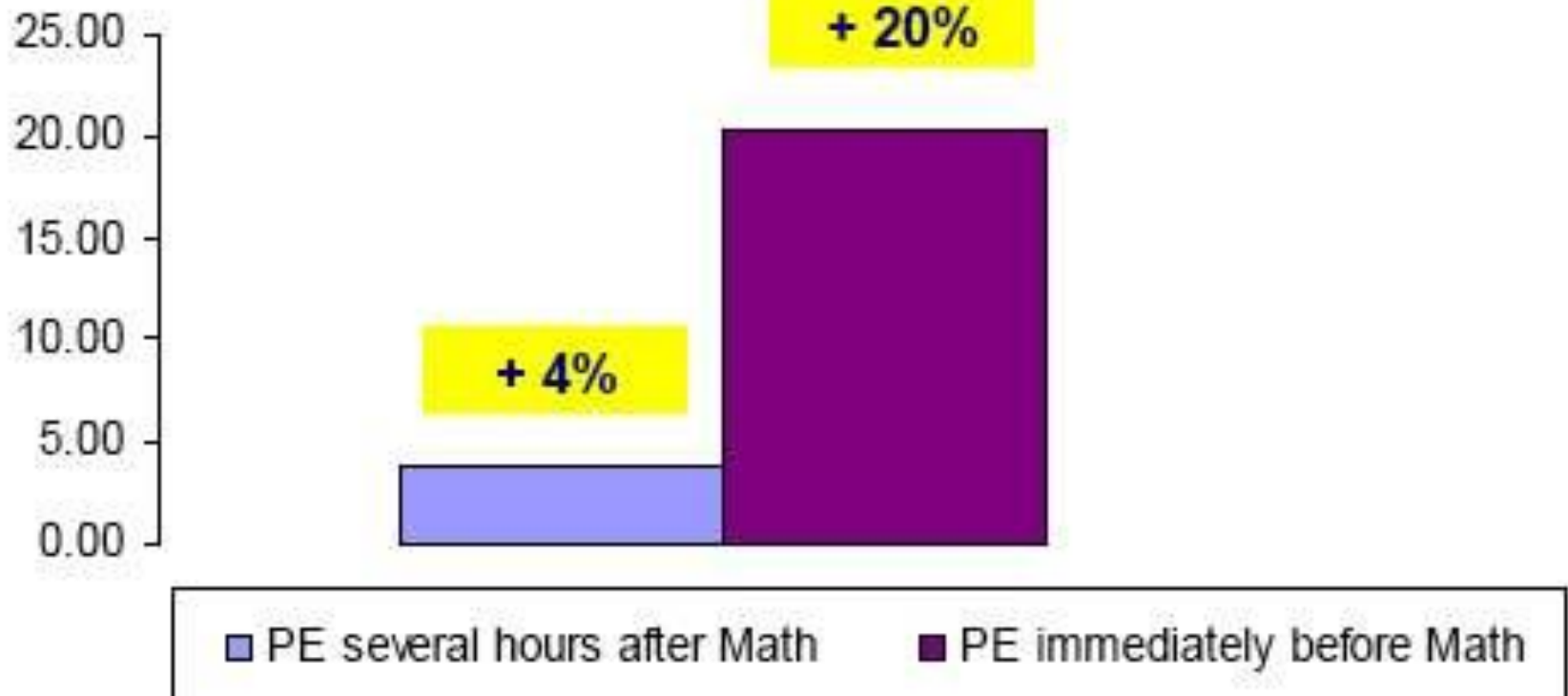




# Maths Scores up after PE Class

**% Improvement in Algebra Readiness Scores**

Source: Ratey (2008) Spark



# How Does Exercise Influence the Student's Brain?

- It triggers BDNF, growth factors (Kesslak et al., 1998)
- Increases brain cell production (van Praag, et al. 1999)
- Upregulates serotonin (mood, attention, memory and neurogenesis) (Chaouloff, 1989)
- Raises heart rate (Krock et al., 1992)
- Increase catecholamines (Gillberg et al., 1986).
- Builds cortical mass (Anderson et al., 2002)
- Enhances cognitive arousal (Saklofske, et al. 1992)

# Music as a Tool of Engagement

- Students can be in charge of class music as long as they have your boundaries for it.
- Higher beats per minute increases good stress and energy levels.
- Familiar pop songs can spur memories of being active and having fun.





# COGNITIVE SKILL BUILDING

- ◆ Cognitive skill building is a way of increasing a students capacity to learn.
- ◆ Cognitive skills provide the critical tools necessary for learning.
- ◆ Many cognitive skill can be taught but we usually do not address them.
- ◆ We can teach processing, attentional focus, self control, working memory, prioritization, ordering/sequencing and deferred gratification.
- ◆ Good executive functioning skill are essential to learning and they also can be taught.
- ◆ We can do this with teacher directed activities and with computer assisted instruction.
- ◆ We have identified programs for all grades that can be used to increase these skills.



Which Factor, (When Tested at Age 5)  
is a *Far Greater Predictor* of Student  
Success at Age 11 than IQ?

- a) reading scores
- b) motivation level
- c) math scores
- d) attitude
- e) working memory



# Working Memory is Free, Easy to Build and It's a Teachable Skill

If You Don't Teach It, Don't Punish Kids for Not Being Good At It.



Klingberg T, Fernell E, Olesen P, Johnson M, Gustafsson P, Dahlström K, Gillberg CG, Forssberg H, Westerberg H (2005)



# Consequences of Poor Executive Functions in a School Environment

## Emotional Difficulties

- Aggression
- Mood Swings
- Depression & Anxiety
- Learned helplessness

## Risk Taking Behavior

- Alcohol and Drug Abuse
- Aggression
- Conduct Problems
- Bullying

## Compulsive Behaviors

- Alcohol and Drug Abuse
- Preoccupation with Appearance
- Self Mutilation

## Inattention / Distractibility

- Poor Academic Performance
- Planning Difficulties
- Test-Taking Difficulties
- AD/HD

# Cognitive Skill Building BrainWare Safari





	Ancient Logic and Reasoning	Arrow Point Bridge	Bear Shuffle	Cave Comparisons	Crocodile Recollection	Iguana Lookout	Jumping Jaguar Flash	Jungle Labyrinth	Llama Logic	Memory Mountain	Parrotting Colors	Piranha Pass	Rhythm Ribbet	Silthering Symbols	Sky Scanning	Tree Tic Tac Toe	Turtle Recall	Volcanic Patterns	Web Weaving	Whispering Waterfall	
Visual Sustained Attention		X	X		X	X	X	X		X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		Attention Skills
Auditory Sustained Attention													X								
Visual Selective Attention		X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X		
Auditory Selective Attention				X									X		X					X	
Divided Attention			X		X	X		X		X	X	X	X			X			X		
Flexible Attention				X	X	X				X	X	X	X		X	X			X		
Visual Discrimination				X	X	X	X			X				X	X			X			Visual Processing Skills
Visual Figure Ground															X			X			
Visual Form Consistency				X					X	X											
Directionality		X		X		X						X				X					
Visual Span		X			X		X							X							
Visual Simultaneous Processing		X		X	X		X			X			X	X				X	X		
Visual Sequential Processing	X	X	X						X				X	X	X						Sensory Integration
Visualization		X	X	X	X	X		X		X		X		X	X	X			X	X	
Visual Processing Speed		X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X		X		X	X		
Oculomotor Skills						X		X				X			X		X				
Visual-Motor Integration						X		X					X						X		
Auditory-Motor Integration		X			X					X	X		X		X			X	X	X	
Timing-Rhythm		X			X	X				X	X		X	X					X	X	Auditory Skills
Visual-Auditory Integration													X		X						
Auditory Discrimination															X					X	



LEC

	Ancient Logic and Reasoning	Arrow Point Bridge	Bear Shuffle	Cave Comparisons	Crocodile Recollection	Iguana Lookout	Jumping Jaguar Flash	Jungle Labyrinth	Llama Logic	Memory Mountain	Parrotting Colors	Piranha Pass	Rhythm Ribbet	Slithering Symbols	Sky Scanning	Tree Tic Tac Toe	Turtle Recall	Volcanic Patterns	Web Weaving	Whispering Waterfall	
Auditory Sequential Processing															X					X	Auditory Processing
Auditory Processing Speed													X		X					X	
Visual Sensory Short-Term Memory		X	X	X	X		X			X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X		Memory Skills
Auditory Sensory Short-Term Memory				X									X		X					X	
Visual Immediate Short-Term Memory		X	X	X	X		X			X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X		
Auditory Immediate Short-Term Memory				X									X		X					X	
Working Memory			X	X	X					X			X		X	X			X	X	
Visual Spatial Memory			X	X						X	X	X				X		X	X		
Long-Term Memory																	X				
Visual Sequential Memory		X	X										X	X							
Auditory Sequential Memory													X		X						
Visual Simultaneous Memory		X		X	X		X			X				X				X			
Logic	X								X			X				X					Thinking Skills
Reasoning	X								X			X				X					
Planning								X				X				X					
Problem Solving	X							X	X			X									
Strategic Thinking	X							X	X			X				X					
Visual Thinking	X			X				X	X	X		X				X					
Conceptual Thinking	X							X													
Decision Speed				X				X				X				X					

Name: [REDACTED]  
 Total Levels Completed: 168  
 Total Number of Days Played: 54  
 Days Since Last Attempt: 55

Date of Report: 3/27/2014 1:22:18 PM  
 First Login: 10/18/2013  
 Last Attempt: 1/31/2014  
 Total Exercise Time\*: 20 hours

☒ View Level Attempts ☐ View Level Time

## - Level Attempts -

☐ Include Practice Attempts

Attempts per level

Exercise Name	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Arrow Point Bridge	1	1	1	1	1	1	2★
Bear Shuffle	1	1	2	1	2	2	5★
Cave Comparisons	4	1	3	1	2	2	1★
Crocodile Recollection	1	2	1	1	1	1	1★
Iguana Lookout	1	4	6	16	15	8	93★
Jumping Jaguar Flash	1	1	1	1	7	1	5★
Jungle Labyrinth	4	2	2	5	11	9	81★
Memory Mountain	5	1	1	3	4	3	2★
Parroting Colors	1	3	1	1	2	1	1★
Piranha Pass	15	6	6	6	5	4	8★
Rhythm Ribbet	3	1	1	4	4	1	79★
Sky Scanning	1	1	1	1	1	1	1★
Slithering Symbols	3	2	1	1	1	1	1★
Tree Tic Tac Toe	1	6	2	12	1	4	1★
Turtle Recall	4	2	10	10	2	22	11★
Volcanic Patterns	1	1	1	1	1	1	1★
Web Weaving	1	1	1	1	1	1	2★
Whispering Waterfall	4	1	1	2	1	1	3★

Attempts per level

Exercise Name	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Ancient Logic and Reasoning	2■	2■	1▶	2■	2■	2■	2■	2▶	1▶	1▶	1▶	2■	2▶	2■	2▶	1▶	2■	2■	2▶	2■	2■
Llama Logic	2■	1▶	1▶	2■	2■	2■	2■	2▶	1▶	2■	2■	2■	2■	2■	2■	2▶	1▶	2■	1▶	2▶	1★

Legend: ▶ = Level Success | ■ = Level Fail | ★ = Exercise Complete | \*Total Time includes practice attempts.

[Export User Data](#)



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[Lumosity.com](https://lumosity.com)





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**104768** ⚡

**OVERALL BPI**

**812**

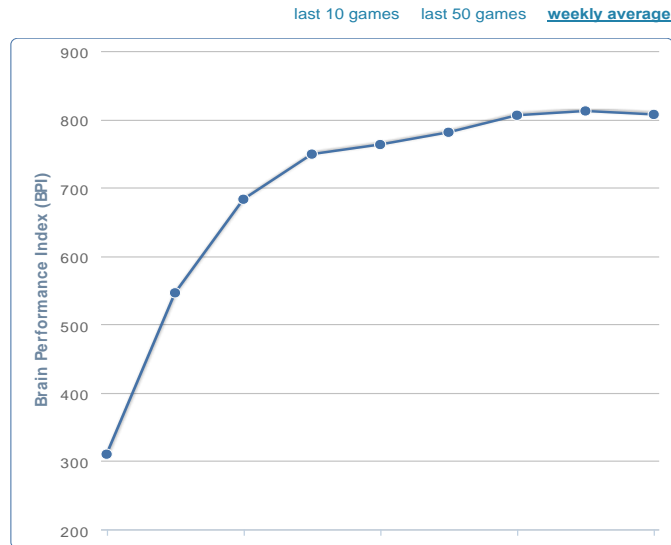
**LUMOSITY POINTS**

00573

## History

- Overall
- Speed
- Memory
- Attention
- Flexibility
- Problem Solving

### Your Overall BPI History



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OVERALL BPI .....

**812**

LUMOSITY POINTS .....

**00573**

## History

Overall

Speed

Memory

Memory Matrix 2

Memory Matrix

Mobile: iPad

Memory Match

Monster Garden

Face Memory

Workout

Pinball Recall

Follow That Frog

Pinball Recall

Mobile: iPad

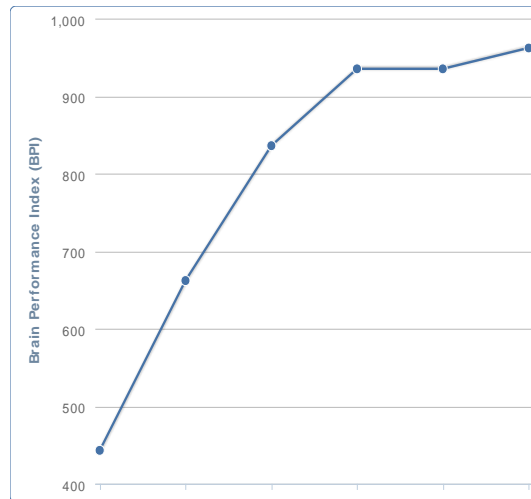
Attention

Flexibility

Problem Solving

### Your Memory BPI History

[last 10 games](#) [last 50 games](#) [weekly average](#)



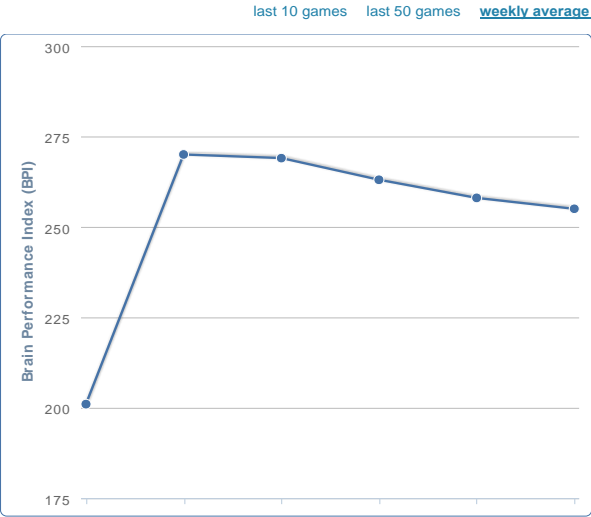


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History

- Overall
- Speed
- Memory
- Attention
- Flexibility
- Problem Solving
- Raindrops Mobile: iPad
- Chalkboard
- Challenge Mobile: iPad

Your Problem Solving BPI History



104768 ⚡

OVERALL BPI

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**104768** ⚡

OVERALL BPI

**812**

LUMOSITY POINTS

00573

## History

Overall

Speed

Memory

Attention

Lost in Migration 2

Lost in Migration

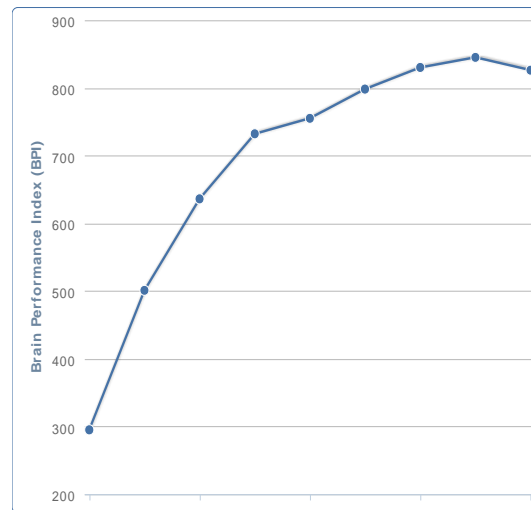
Mobile: iPad

Flexibility

Problem Solving

### Your Attention BPI History

[last 10 games](#) [last 50 games](#) [weekly average](#)



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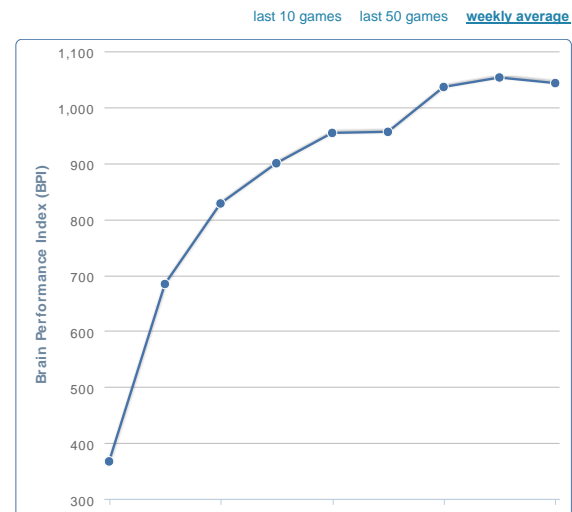
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## History

- Overall
- Speed
- Memory
- Attention
- Flexibility
- Disillusion
- Brain Shift 2
- Ebb and Flow
- Brain Shift Mobile: iPad
- Color Match 2
- Color Match Mobile: iPad
- Problem Solving

### Your Flexibility BPI History



104768 ⚡

OVERALL BPI

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LUMOSITY POINTS

00573



# **“High Return” Achievement Factors**

*(my personal favorites)*

1. Student en\_\_\_\_\_
2. Instructional Climate w/ h\_\_\_\_\_ and gr\_\_\_\_\_ min\_\_\_\_\_
3. Feedback (ongoing, formative and summative) w/ 3-1 ratio
4. R\_\_\_\_\_ (multi-level)
5. Cognitive Sk \_\_\_\_\_ Buil\_\_\_\_\_

|| ***To succeed, our teachers need to believe...***

1) ALL (100%) kids can learn, grow and change because...

2) The human brain is designed to adapt from experience, and...

3) To change kid's brains, teachers must FIRST change their teaching

# || ***Keep it Urgent!***



You only get about 25 hours per week, for 36 weeks a year with kids. That means you can't afford to waste critical time with your kids bored, distressed, angry or failing. *You can't afford to diminish a dream or put anyone down.* At best, you'll get 900 hours (15%) per year (of their 5,800 waking hours). *You will see results if you use every minute you have!*



ERIC JENSEN

ENGAGING  
STUDENTS WITH  
*poverty*  
IN MIND



PRACTICAL STRATEGIES  
FOR RAISING ACHIEVEMENT

Eric Jensen & Carole Snider



TURNAROUND  
TOOLS  
★ FOR THE ★  
TEENAGE  
BRAIN

Helping Underperforming Students  
Become Lifelong Learners