

The Upside Down Organization is proud to support the 30th Annual Texas Network of Youth Services (TNOYS) Conference!

AUGUST 15, 2013 | San Antonio, TX

PRESENTER:

FRANK J. KROS, MSW, JD

“Change Your Language, Change Their Lives: What Adults Can Say Differently Today to Transform the Tomorrows of Our Youth”

TODAY'S ITINERARY

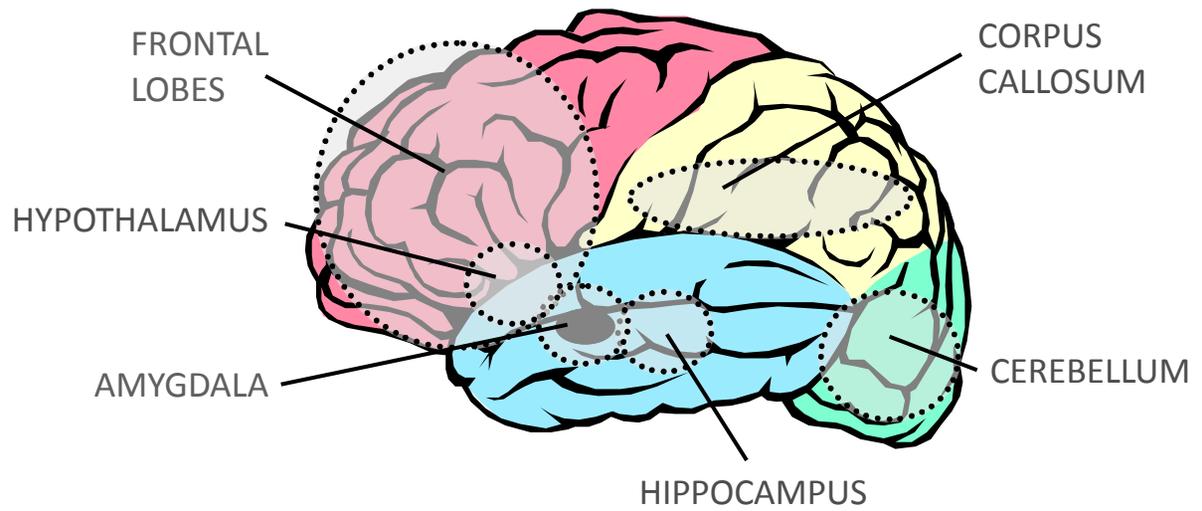
1. Words that *Develop the Right Mindset About Learning.*
2. Words that *Stimulate Executive Function.*
3. Words that *Help Memory.*
4. Words that *Build Hope.*
5. Words that *Make the Abstract Specific.*

NOTES



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Basic Brain Anatomy



The Brain Made Ridiculously Simple!

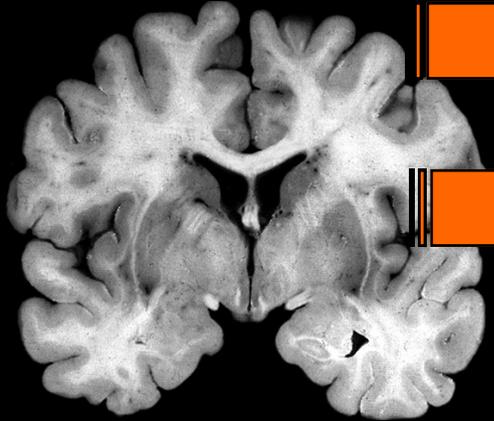
HIPPOCAMPUS The Mail Carrier	AMYGDALA The Palace Guard	HYPOTHALAMUS WIIFM?	CORPUS CALLOSUM Brooklyn Bridge	CEREBELLUM Mover and Shaker	FRONTAL LOBES Learning to Drive

1.

Adopt the LANGUAGE of the BRAIN!

Research continues to reveal that what we say to teens and how we say it has a powerful impact on their developing brains.

Just Two Examples ...



MINDSET

- Focus on:
- Learning Strategies
 - Effort
 - Perseverance

“Don’t tell your [teens] they are smart. More than three decades of research shows that a focus on effort – not on intelligence or ability – is the key to success in school and in life.”

FIXED Mindset vs. GROWTH Mindset

FIXED

- Intelligence is a fixed trait — you only have a certain amount and that’s that.
- Mistakes are attributed to a lack of ability.

“If I struggle or have to work hard, I am dumb.”

GROWTH

- Intelligence is malleable and can be developed through education and hard work.
- Mistakes are attributed to a lack of effort.

“If I work hard enough, I can learn this.”

BRAIN RULE: What We Say Matters



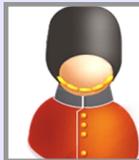
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Not only to the development of the mindset our students have about intelligence, but to how fast and how deep the executive system of the brain develops (*those all important frontal lobes!*)

2.

Words That Stimulate Executive Function

AMYGDALA
The Palace Guard



FRONTAL LOBES
Learning to Drive



Self-Regulation
Executive Function
Definitions With
Examples of
Teacher Prompts
*George McCloskey,
Bob R. VanDivner, &
Lisa Perkins*

3.

Words That Help Memory

SENSE and MEANING

What Get’s Remembered?

1. **Survival Value Info/ Experiences**
2. **Learning that Makes Sense**
Can the teen understand the item on the basis of past experiences?
3. **Learning that Has Meaning**
Is the information relevant to the teen?

Incorporate These Two Essential Questions into Every Teaching Moment:



1. **How does this relate to what they already know?**
2. **How might they use this in the future?**

4.

Words That Build HOPE

1. Affirmation
2. Prediction of Positive Outcomes
3. Vision of Personalized, Compelling Possibilities by a Believable Authority Figure

5.

Words That Make the Abstract Specific

3-PART MODEL *to boost behavioral feedback and increase students’ ability to respond:*

- Step 1:** State the context and then general behavior desired in that context.
- Step 2:** Precisely state the behavior desired.
- Step 3:** Connect the context and desired behavior to the abstract term.