Nurturing Resilience, Self-discipline and Tenacity Understanding the Science of the Essential Triad of Human Development

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1

Relevant Disclosure



- I have developed tests marketed by Multi- Health Systems, Pro-Ed and Western Psychological Services including the Rating Scales of Impairment (MHS).
- I have authored books marketed by Springer, Wiley, Guilford, Double Day, McGraw Hill, Brookes, Kluwer and Specialty Press. These include Raising Resilient Children, Raising a Self-disciplined Child and Tenacity in Children).
- I am Editor in Chief of the Journal of Attention Disorders (Sage) and Co-Editor of the Encyclopedia of Child Development
- I am a compensated speaker for L & B.

2

Brooks and Goldstein: A Thirty Year Collaboration

Raising Resilient Children Nurturing Resilience Raising a Self Disciplined Child Power of Resilience
Raising Resilient Children with ASD Seven Steps to Improve Social Skills Seven Steps to Anger Management Seven Steps to Help Your Child Worry Less Tenacity (in progress)



Handbook of Resilience in Children Handbook of Resilience in Children 2^{nd} Ed. Handbook of Resilience in Children 3rd Ed. (in progress) Understanding and Managing Classroom Behavior 2nd Ed. Play Therapy Interventions to Enhance Resilience Parenting Resilient Children Program Handbook of Human Instincts (in progress)

Tough Times Resilient Kids

One Minute to Better Parenting

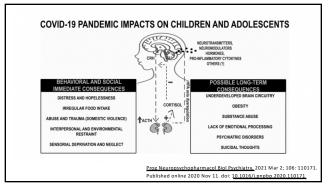
Dozens of Trade and Lay Public Articles and Joint Presentations

Learning Objectives

- Develop an understanding and appreciation of the science of resilience and self-discipline.
- Explore and understand the science of human instincts, specifically as it relates to the seven instincts falling under the umbrella of *Tenacity*.
- Discover an appreciation of how these three phenomena inter-weave to chart a path for happy and successful outcomes for all children.
- Learn about resources as well as ideas for specific strategies in the classroom, on the playground, and in the home.



4



5

COVID 19 Impact on Youth

- Since the Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic was announced, we had an unprecedented change in the way we organize ourselves socially and in our daily routine.
- Children and adolescents were also greatly impacted by the abrupt withdrawal from school, social life and outdoor activities.
- The stress they are subjected to directly impacts their mental health on account of increased anxiety, changes in their diets and in school dynamics, fear or even failing to scale the problem.
- Although youngsters appear to be less vulnerable to COVID-19, the side effects of the pandemic can be devastating
- enexs or the panuerinic and to devastating.

 Children and adolescents may be highly exposed to biopsychosocial stressors generated by the pandemic and once population's containment measures to reduce virus spread are required; they could be potentially affected by the disruption in daily life routine as a result of social isolation and their unkassoned ability to conceive and comprehend the short- and long-term consequences of this outbreak.



COVID 19 Impact on Youth

- Recently, an early published study evaluated 1036 quarantined children and adolescents in China in an age range from 6 to 15 years, of which 112, 196, and 68 presented depression, anxiety, and both, respectively.
- Another study demonstrated a high prevalence of psychological distress in quarantined children and adolescents due to the COVID-19 pandemic in India. These children experienced helplessness (66.11%), worry (68.59%) and fear (61.98%), compared to non-quarantined children.
- It was also reported in China that children and adolescents aged 3–18 years presented symptoms of inattention, clinging, worry and irritability during this pandemic.



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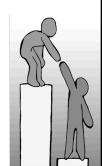
Why are These Data a Concern?

- Stress and neuroinflammation.
- Social isolation and diet.
- Brain plasticity: social behavior; social inequalities, neglect and distress.
- Diminished opportunity for play and access to the community environment.
 Reduced public health and support.
- It is the nature of human beings to be social and, despite the need for these restraint measures, it is of great concern how this pandemic period can affect the young brain under development.
- Therefore, the search for strategies to mitigate a harmful long-term impact on it should be sought. This knowledge will bring us information and guide us in the future should we have to face another world wide like the COVID-19 pandemic.

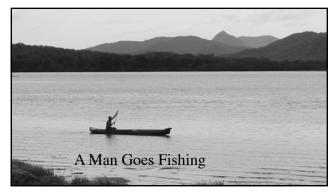
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Goals for Today

- Develop a new understanding of the forces that shape children's journey into adulthood.
- Appreciate the Essential Triad of human development.
- Expand an appreciation of human instincts.
- Master the the definitions of Resilience, Selfdiscipline and Tenacity.
- Develop skills to affirmatively apply this knowledge in the classroom.



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11

We Are the First Congress on Defining Child Development (circa 1820)



How Shall We Understand, Define, Categorize, Evaluate the Impact of These Forces to Help Children?

- By etiology or cause?
- By emotions, behaviors and thoughts?
- By impaired function in activities of life?



13

The Essential Triad of Human Development

- The Essential Triad is an outgrowth of our continued elaboration of a strength-based model to understand human behavior and empower youth and adults.
- After writing the trade books Raising Resilient Children. The Power of Resilience, and Nurturing Resilience in Our Children, as well as coediting a two science volumes, Handbook of Resilience in Children and 2nd editions, in which we introduced and elaborated on the concept of a resilient mindset, we recognized that one component of that mindset, self-discipline, deserved separate attention.
- This prompted us to further research and author Raising a Self-Disciplined Child.

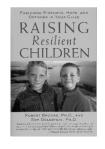


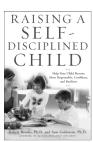
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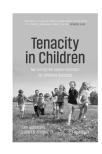
The Essential Triad of Human Development

- We appreciate that resilience is a process of competent functioning under duress and self-discipline is the inner control required to be resilient over time.
- In our continued work with children and families we recognized that the guideposts of resilience and self-discipline were always helpful but at times fell short of our goals.
- Through our professional and personal experiences we learned that functional behavior and self-control over time requires a certain kind of determination and a firm grip in charting life decisions.
- This is what tenacity represents. Tenacity is the strength of will, strong mindedness, and sense of purpose needed to fuel selfdiscipline and resilience. Tenacity is rooted in a mindset of stalwart belief.









We have perpetuated the nineteenth century perception that raising children is a process by which information is dumped into a black box lying mysteriously within the human brain.



17

We have also assumed a Stepford Wives model that all black boxes are identical.









which experience influe	regivers are the architects of the way in ich experience influences genetically eprogrammed but experience dependent in development. Daniel Siegel The Developing Mind	

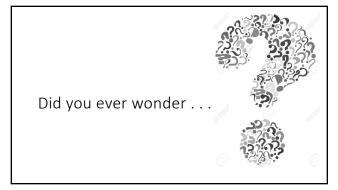


Me and My Dad!

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When children transition into adult life their past mistakes, misbehavior or problems are of little interest to others.

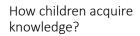




How children learn to speak?



low children learn to nange their emotions?	
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26



How children master challenging activities?



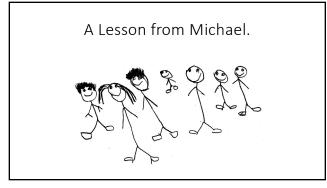


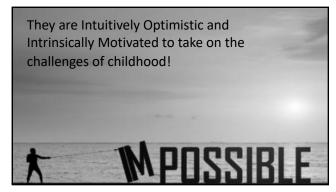
How children create their identity?

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They are guided by the nexus of genes, experience and thought.

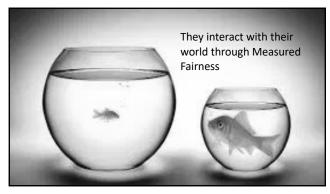












For thousands of generations, parents, relatives, and others raised and prepared children to become successful adults, to acquire knowledge and skills that were needed to meet the challenges of their time.



Until relatively recent times in human history there were no schools or organized institutions, nor were there self-help or parenting books.



37



How did they do it?

38



Our ancestors raised the next generation by drawing upon ten important instincts that evolved over tens of thousands of years in many species.



However these instincts evolved furthest in our species likely because we developed spoken language. Language is the window into the mind.

40



41

Biology is not destiny. but is does impact probability.



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- The Minnesota twin studies has been cited over 1500 times (Bouchard et. al, 1990).
- It also raised many questions about the importance of heredity and the environment in shaping human behavior.
- The evidence that Bouchard and his colleagues provided through their study supported the argument that genetic factors and inheritance play a large role in the development of individuals and the interests and characteristics they show.



Instincts

- In complex species instincts serve a critical role in shaping the developmental course through childhood into adulthood.
- Thousands of generations of children allowed for many genetic mutations, some of which were adaptive.
- Some of these increased the likelihood that babies would survive, even thrive throughout their childhood, and transition successfully into adult life.



44

Instincts

- TENACITY is composed of seven affirmative instincts that I will introduce in today's webinar.
- We will also consider three additional instincts that we believe are responsible for much of what is wrong in the world today.
- We consider one of the most important affirmative instincts to be intuitive optimism. This is the unspoken belief that if you just keep at a task your chances of success are greater.
- We would argue that when it comes to reaching developmental milestones continued effort nearly always leads to success as long as the task is within the capacities of the child to achieve.
- This instinct is clearly a vital component of self-discipline and a resilient mindset.



Instincts



- Our children are in fact hard wired to learn if we are sufficiently knowledgeable to understand how their wiring interacts with the world around them and create environments in which they can grow and thrive.
- Every society places expectations upon its youth to acquire a certain level of knowledge and behavior in order to functionally transition into adulthood.
- No matter how simple the society, children must harness their instincts to acquire knowledge, develop self-discipline, cope well with adversity and persist even in the face of failure.

 The instincts comprising TENACITY provide the critical foundation for children in any culture or society to acquire necessary knowledge to move successfully into adult life.

46

Instincts

- In some species instincts are fixed patterns of behavior leading to a certain outcome such as a bird building a nest for the first time or a salmon returning upriver to its birthplace to spawn.
- We believe that in our species instincts represent an intuitive way of thinking and/or acting that increase the chances of survival and
- In viewing instincts in this way we appreciate that knowing what to do and doing what you know are not synonymous.
- Ultimately success very much dependent on experience.



47

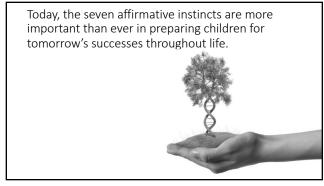
"The Unholy Trinity of Instincts"



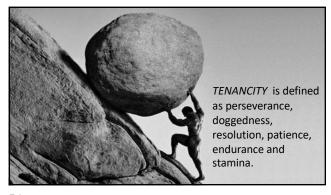
- Open a newspaper, visit a web page, or turn on the evening news and you will find a disheartening and increasing number of stories of adverse events in the world.
- We maintain three additional basic human instincts:
 - 1. Rigid adherence to belief.
 - 2. Fear of difference.
 - 3. Defensive aggression to real or perceived threat.

alone or in combination in great part explain why these events occur.

We call these three instincts the "unholy trinity."



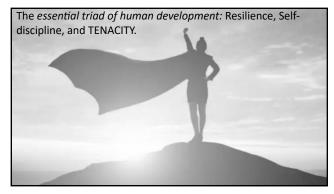




Tenacity provides the mental and emotional fuel driving resilience and self-discipline.

KEEP CALM AND NEVER YIELD

52



53

TENACITY may be comprised of seven instincts, but for these instincts to develop and flourish in children they require the nurturing and support of caring adults.



These instincts are:

- intrinsic motivation
- intuitive optimism
- simultaneous intelligence
- compassionate empathy
- virtuous responsibility
- genuine altruism
- measured fairness



55

Instinctual Optimism

- A belief driven by genes.
- A belief that a way will always be found.
- A belief that success will be obtained.
- The glass is half full!



56

Intrinsic Motivation

- Driven by internal reason and inspiration.
- Rewarded by the payoff to the mind.
- Guided by belief not environmental consequences.



Simultaneous Intelligence



- The ability to see all the parts of a problem simultaneously.
- A mental activity by which the child integrates stimuli into groups.
- Stimuli are seen as a whole.
- Each part is related to the others.



58

Compassionate Empathy



Insight combined with:

- Sensitivity
- Tolerance
- Kindness



59

Through the Eyes of Others



- Do you practice what you have learned and lived?
- It is difficult to be empathic when you are disappointed or angry.
- Do you make assumptions about the motives of others?
- Do you hold the erroneous belief that if you are too empathic people will take advantage of you?



Through the Eyes of Others



Steps to becoming an empathic person:

- Take the time to complete empathy exercise. Consider how you would like other people to describe you versus how they might actually describe you. Act on the discrepancy.
- Use your experiences as a guide.
- Make an effort to put empathy into practice every day.

61

Virtuous Responsibility



Dignity

Morality

Respect for self and others

Integrity





62

Genuine Altruism

Giving of yourself (time and effort) guided by:

Sincerity

Honesty

Truth Sensitivity

Honesty





Measured Fairness

- A concept developed in Game Theory.
- Being fair to yourself first than to others.
- Knowing when you must put yourself first.



64

The Road to *TENACITY*: Building Islands of Competence

- \bullet Examine your assumptions about children's choices and successes.
- Challenge their self-defeating attributions.
- \bullet Help them find passionate interests and islands of competence and pursue them.
- Listen and learn first before advising. Sometimes they just want to be heard.
- Let them learn from their experiences.
- Be proactive in the face of true problems.
- Take a long term view.



65

Focus on Well Being!

- COMPETENCE in academic, social and vocational areas
- CONFIDENCE or a positive identity
- CONNECTIONS or healthy relations
- CHARACTER or positive values, integrity, and values
- CARING and compassion

(Lerner et al, 2000



Stress Hardiness

- Committed to finding a meaningful purpose in life.
- A belief that you can influence your surroundings and outcome of events.
- A belief that you can learn and grow from both positive and negative life experiences.



67

Do Children Care What We Think? Part I	Dear Mrs. Cowdel) Tom writeing you this letters I'm JUST asking i you con tangue me for talkine back to you, know what did wax varyon very throng and I wanted to exou ize It institute we for the IT just a kind and kids make mistakes, but I'm sure you knew that Mrs. code, what I'm trying to say is That I'm very very, very, sery, sorry.
	Drew

68

Do Children Care What We Think? Part II	Dear Mrs. Condell Mrs. Condel
---	--

Biology is not destiny but it does
effect probability. In every risk
group there are those who manage
to transition successfully into adult
life despite their adversities.



Resilience

- A process leading to good outcome despite high risk
- The ability to function competently under stress
- The ability to recover from trauma and adversity



71

"I'm not afraid about my girlfriends and myself, we'll squeeze through somehow, though I'm not too certain about my math."

Anne Frank June 21, l942



"I have lots of courage, I feel so strong and as if I can bear a great deal,I feel so free and so young! I was glad when I first realized it, because I don't think I shall easily bow down before the blows that inevitably come to everyone."

Anne Frank July 15, 1944



73



74

Resilient children are not simply born that way nor are they made from scratch by their experiences. Genetic and environmental experiences loom large as protectors against a variety of risks to healthy development ranging from resistance to bacteria and viruses to resilience to maltreatment and rejection.

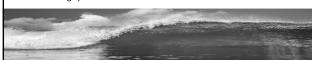


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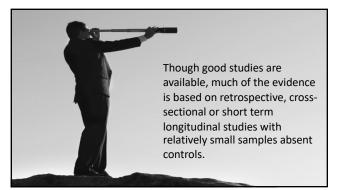
	Resilience is Predicted By Factors	s Within:
The Family The Child The Culture	The Child	

Four Waves of Resilience Research

- Identifying person and variable-focused factors that make a difference.
- Identifying and understanding the operation of these factors within systems with a process focus.
- Intervening to foster resilience.
- Creating systems that foster resilience.



77



It is also critical to remember that resilience is never directly measured in these studies.

79

Resilience is inferred based on the measurement of risk and coping.



80

U.S. Large Scale Logitudinal Studies

- The Kauai Study (698 children born in 1955)
- Minnesota Parent-Child Project (190 children born in 1975).
- Project Competence (205 children in 3rd -6th grades started in 1977).
- Virginia Study of Divorce and Remarriage (122 children in 1971).
- Rochester Study (180 children in 1970).
- Chicago Study (1200+ children in 1983).

Worldwide Large Scale Longitudinal **Studies**

- British National Child Development Study (17,000 children born in 1958).
- British Cohort Study (14,000+ children born in 1970).
- Dunedin Multidisciplinary Health and Development Study (1,000+ children born in 1972 1973).
- Queensland Study (8,500+ children born in 1981).
- Lundby Study (590 children born in 1997)
- Copenhagen High Risk Study (207 children from age 15 on begun 30 years ago).

82

Risk and Protective Factors: In the Individual

Risks

- Female gender
- Early puberty
- Difficult temperament: inflexibility, low positive mood, withdrawal, poor concentration
- Anxiety
- Low-level depressive symptoms and dysthymia
- Insecure attachment
- Poor social skills: communication and problem-solving skills
- Extreme need for approval and social support

- High IQ
- Positive social skills
- Willingness to please adults
 Religious and club affiliations
 Positive physical development

83

Risk and Protective Factors: In the Individual

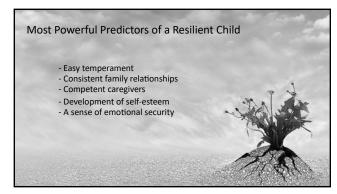
- Low self-esteem
- Shyness
- Emotional problems in childhood Conduct disorder
- Favorable attitudes toward drugs • Rebelliousness
- · Early substance use
- Antisocial behavior
- Head injury
- Marijuana use Childhood exposure to lead or mercury (neurotoxins)

High self-esteem

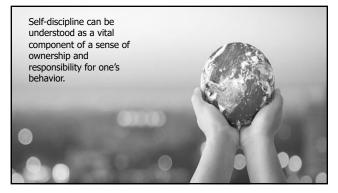
- Emotional self-regulation
- Good coping skills and problem-solving skills
- Engagement and connections in two or more of the following contexts: school, with peers, in athletics, employment, religion, culture

http://dhss.alaska.gov/dbh/Documents/Prevent /spfsig/pdfs/IOM_Matrix_8%205x11_FINAL.pdf

	Risk and Protective Fac	tors: In the Family	
	Risks	Protective	
	Inadequate or inappropriate child rearing practices, Home discord Maltreatment and abuse Large family size	Participation in shared activities between youth and family (including siblings and parents) Providing the forum to discuss problems and issues with parents.	
	Parental antisocial history Poverty Exposure to repeated family violence	Availability of economic and other resources to expose youth to multiple experiences The presence of a positive adult (ally) in the family to mentor and be supportive Family provides structure, limits, rules, monitoring, and	
	Divorce Parental psychopathology Teenage parenthood	predictability Supportive relationships with family members Clear expectations for behavior and values	
	A high level of parent-child conflict A low level of positive parental involvement Family dysfunction	Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (2009). Risk and protective factors for mental, emotional, and	
	Poor parental supervision Sexual abuse	behavioral disorders across the life cycle. Summarized from: http://dhss.alaska.gov/dbh/Documents/Prevention/programs /spfsig/pdfs/DOM_Matrix_8%20Sx11_FINAL.pdf	
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	Risk and Protective Fac	tors: In Peers	
	Risks • Spending time with peers who	• Positive and healthy friends to	
	engage in delinquent or risky behavior	associate with	
	Gang involvement	 Engagement in healthy and safe activities with peers during 	
	Less exposure to positive social	leisure time (e.g., clubs, sports, other recreation	
	opportunities because of bullying and rejection		
		Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (2009). Risk and protective factors for mental, emotional, and behavioral disorders across the life cycle. Summarized from:	
		http://dhss.alaska.gov/dbh/Documents/Prevention/programs/spfsi g/pdfs/DOM_Matrix_8%205x11_FINAL.pdf	
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	Risk and Protective Facto	rs: School and Community	
	Risks	Protective	-
	Poor academic performance Enrollment in schools that are unsafe and fail to address the academic and	 Enrollment in schools that address not only the academic needs of youth but also their social and emotional needs and learning 	
	social and emotional needs of children and youth • Low commitment to school	Schools that provide a safe environment	
	Low educational aspirationsPoor motivation	 A community and neighborhood that promote and foster healthy activities for youth 	
	Living in an impoverished neighborhood Social disorganization in the	Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (2009). Risk and protective factors for	
	 Social disorganization in the community in which the youth lives High crime neighborhoods 	mental, emotional, and behavioral disorders across the life cycle. Summarized from:	
		http://dhss.alaska.gov/dbh/Documents/Prevention/progr ams/spfsig/pdfs/IOM_Matrix_8%205x11_FINAL.pdf	







The need to develop and effectively harness self-discipline at an early age, while critical in any culture, may take on greater importance in a society filled with complex demands, challenges, and stresses. The possession and ability to effectively utilize self-discipline paves a successful road into adulthood.



91



It is not surprising that in our fast paced, seemingly chaotic world, children capable of implementing self-discipline at young ages appear to negotiate the maze of family, school, friends, and community more successfully than those who struggle with this ability.

Effective self-discipline implies that a child has internalized a set of rules so that even without the presence of a parent or other caregiver, the child will act in a thoughtful, reflective manner.

92

The question, "What skills and attitudes are we attempting to reinforce in children when we discipline them?" can also be posed in the following way: "What do we desire to be the endresult of our disciplinary techniques?"



Self-discipline

- The ability to inhibit
- The ability to delay
- The ability to separate thought from feeling
- The ability to separate experience from response
- The ability to consider an experience and change perspective
- The ability to consider alternative responses



94

Self-discipline

- The ability to choose a response and act successfully towards a goal
- The ability to change the response when confronted with new data
- The ability to negotiate life automatically
- The ability to track cues



95

Children with poor selfdiscipline aren't clue-less.

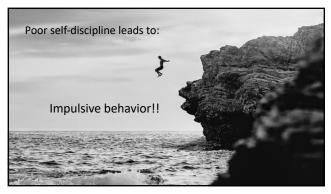
They are unfortunately often cue-less!



Poor Self-discipline is synonymous with. . . Poor Self-control



97



98

Poor self-discipline leads to:

- Knowing what to do is not the same as doing what you know
- Inconsistent behavior
- Unpredictable behavior
- The illusion of competence
- Riding an emotional roller coaster
- Problems with automatic behavior



Conditions	under	which	inattention	is
observed:				

- Repetitive
- Effortful
- Uninteresting
- Not chosen



Conditions under which problems with consequences are observed:

- Delayed
- Infrequent
- Unpredictable
- Lacking saliency

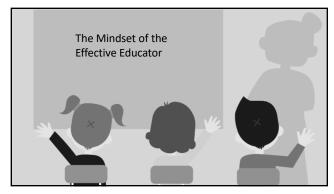


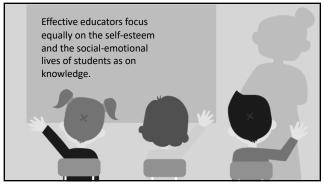
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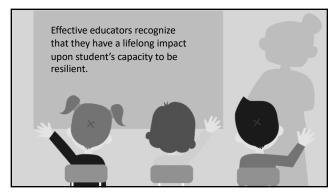
Poor self-discipline acts as a catalyst fueling other developmental and environmental risk factors.

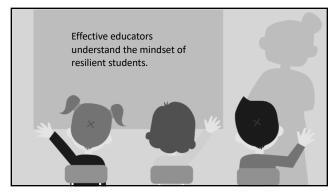


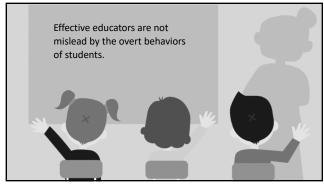










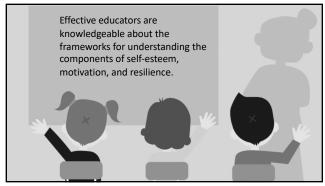


Coping Behaviors of Students

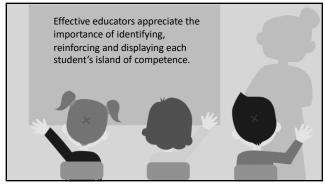
- Quitting and avoiding
- Cheating
- Rationalizing
- Clowning and regression
- Controlling
- Aggressiveness and bullying
- Passive/aggressive behavior
- Complaining of boredom
- Rushing

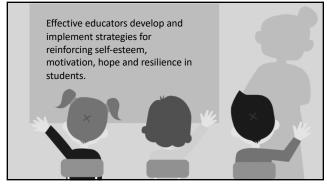


109



110





The Lessons of Resilience: Maintaining a Resilient Classroom

Exercising resilience on a daily basis:

- Have I truly listened during the past day and attempted to understand the viewpoints of my students?
- How have I related to my students?
- Have I practiced empathy and respect?
- How have I responded well to stress, mistakes and setbacks? If not what will I do differently the next time?
- In what areas did I do well? How do I maintain and/or reproduce these positive behaviors tomorrow?
- Do not wait for children to change first for you to achieve your educational goals.

113

The Mindset of a Resilient Child

- Optimistic and hopeful.
- Feel special and appreciated in the eyes of others.
- Set realistic goals and expectations.
- View mistakes, hardships and obstacles as challenges.
- Solve problems and make decisions.
- Internal locus of control.
- Believe you can and set out to solve problems.
- Possess empathy.

The Essential Triad of Human Development

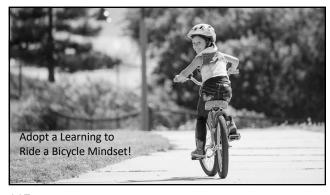
- We believe that the essential triad of human development resilience, self-discipline, and tenacity offer not just a different way of raising children and managing ourselves, but a better way.
- Our role as parents, educators, and therapists is not solely to teach, but to create everyday experiences that nurture these seven instincts to blossom in our children, students, and patients.
- · We hope you agree.



115



116



Goldstein's Axiom	
Through intelligent and ethical educational and therapeutic practices, we can foster self-discipline, mental health, resilience and build educational proficiency in all children without stealing away their dignity and hope.	

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