ISLAMIC SCHOOLS: PARENTS & TEACHERS - GUIDING OUR CHILDREN

Susan Labadi

President
Genius School, Inc.
Board Member and Consultant for
WISER-Weekend Islamic Schools Educational Resources
Booth 401



Parent

Grandparent

Teacher

Administrator

K-12 PD Trainer

Writer



Dr. Amen Licensed Brain Health

Trainer

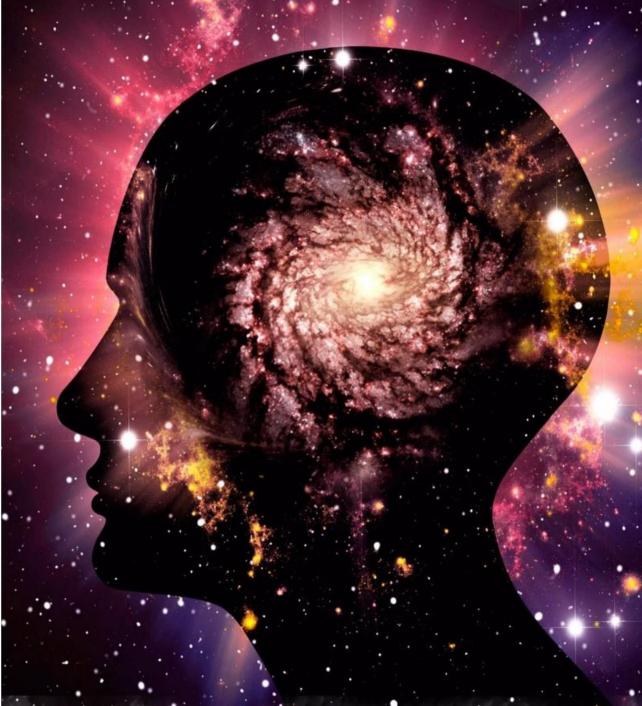
YOU CAN CHANGE YOUR LIFE WHEN YOU CARE FOR YOUR

YOUR BRAIN IS RIDICULOUSLY COMPLEX

- Most complicated organ in universe
- ▶ 100 billion neurons, trillions of supporting cells
- More connections in brain than stars in the universe
- 2% of body's weight, uses 20-30% of kcals
- 20% of the oxygen and blood flow





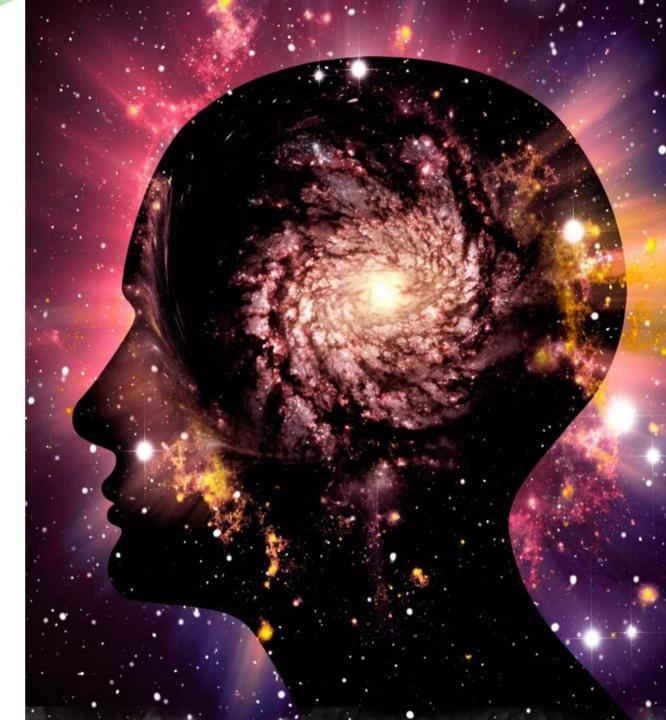


RIDICULOUSLY COMPLEX

- Information travels up to 268mph
- Brain tissue size of a grain of sand has 100,000 neurons and a billion connections talking to one another
- Storage capacity of 6 million years of Wall Street Journal
- Males have 10% more neurons
- Females have more connections







Developmental Facts from 125,000 brain scans in 111 countries

Pruning—use it or lose it

<u>Teenage brain is all drama – emotional brain (limbic system) in full swing</u>

Peer pressure just doesn't come from peers - the basal ganglia and amygdala are active (anxious about what people think about you)

Multitasking is not good for your brain



Creativity is a brain function: everybody is creative!

Kids' Brains

<u>Don't</u> Fully

Develop Until...

Girls: 25 years

Boys: 27-28

years



You Are the Adult Guiding Their Future!



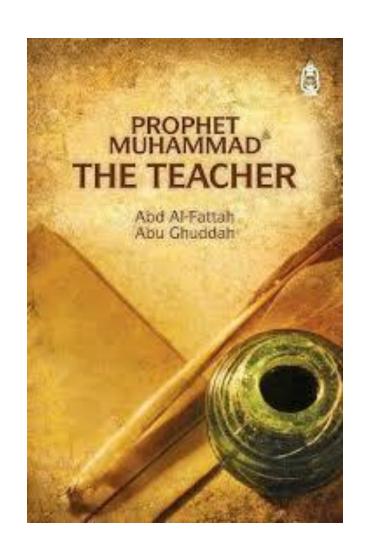


HIGHLY RECOMMEND!

Prophet Muhammad: The Teacher

Sh. Abd Al-Fattah Abu Ghuddah

Learn to walk in the "footsteps of the Prophet" (SAW)



EMPATHY, OBSERVATION AND IMITATION

'Mirror' Neurons

- Observation of an action automatically triggers simulation of that action
- Neurons in the premotor cortex fire during goal-directed actions as well as the observation of similar actions
- "Mirror" neurons provide a neural basis for imitation and empathy (inner imitation)

 Autistic children have deficit of mirror neurons

Collaborate and cooperate for growth in cognition and performance

Gallese V. The Manifold Nature of Interpersonal Relations: The Quest for a Common Mechanism. In: Frith C, ed.

The Neuroscience of Social Interaction. New York, NY: Oxford University Press; 2003:159-186.

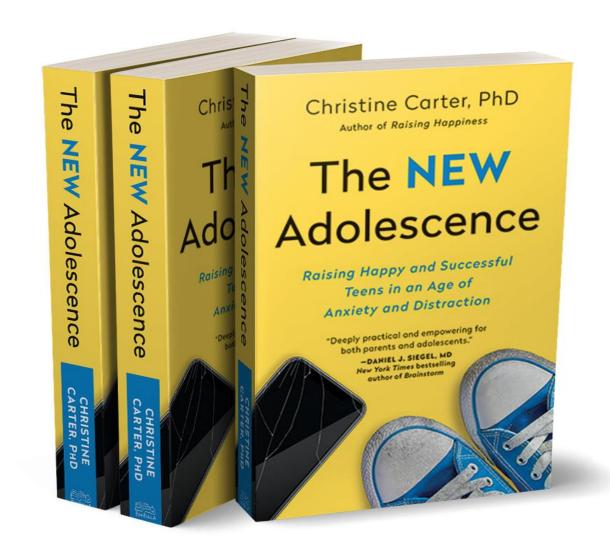
Break the Traditional Education Habits!

Have you ever felt that you did your best teaching and still had kids who flunked the test?

They may be the ones who were really good at "acting" attentive, but were they never summoned to engage and prove their understanding until the final assessment?

HAVE TEENS? IT'S ABOUT RELATIONSHIPS AND CONNECTING

The New Adolescence: Raising Happy and Successful Teens in an Age of Anxiety and Distraction Christine Carter, PhD.



DON'T EXPECT THE NEW GENERATION TO USE YOUR OLD TOOLS FOR LEARNING

We traditionally have practiced rote memorization for the sake of nothing in many cases. Today, our students must deal with broader scopes of understanding, cooperative effort and problem solving of issues never facing humanity before, or at least never resolved.

3 STRATEGIES IN DESIGN

- 1. Set Learning Goals
- 2. Include the means for
 - --monitoring progress
 - --introducing new knowledge
 - --practicing, reviewing and applying knowledge
- 3. To verify acquisition, help students determine how well they've learned

WHAT MY STUDENTS TOLD ME

- Have Patience
- Are Kind and Understanding
- Willing to Do More to Help Students Understand
- "Fish" Outside Information to Elaborate Topics
- Help Students Get a Deeper View of Life
- Encourage Students to "Think Deeply"
- ❖Give Students <u>Choice</u>
- ❖Make Learning Fun!

BEST PRACTICES FOR REDUCING STRESS AND IMPROVING MOOD

- Making dhikr
- Reading and Listening to the Holy Qur'an
- Praying
- Practicing Gratitude
- Making tawbah
- Asking for forgiveness



www.wiser-usa.org









Susan@SusanLabadi.com





