"Intelligence is Modifiable"

Results show Cognitive Gains

More than 40 years ago Dr. Reuven Feuerstein said, "Intelligence is modifiable." Some walked out. Today in the US, such a speech would be less contentious as extensive research studies from many fields have shown the plasticity of the brain.

Dr. Reuven Feuerstein, an Israeli psychologist developed and proved a cognitive program since the 1950’s. The basis is "cognitive modifiability" - it is never too late to improve the thinking powers of any individual, no matter where she or he is at the moment. He began working with children of the Holocaust in 1945 whom teachers and psychologists had declared "unteachable." Many questioned if they could learn. He responded "Don’t ask me what I know! Ask me how I can Learn!"

In later years, he worked with students with special needs, brain traumatized adults, and others struggling to learn and helping prevent learning disorders and disabilities in regular students and dementia in...
many of the techniques I learned about from Mrs. Brown in our school.”

Educational professionals and parents are finding that more tutoring is not the solution for most students. Carol will describe a curriculum that uses cognitive development exercises to make learning and academic success possible. Carol will discuss sequentially:

- neurodevelopment
- sensory development
- cognitive development
- study skills
- instructional methods

Course Objectives

1. Understand how mind and body health effect brain development.
2. Learn six primitive reflexes, the symptoms associated with each, how to test, and how to integrate.
3. Use screening tools and exercises for visual processing, auditory processing, and the vestibular system.
4. Complete the learning screening and using the cognitive skill assessment.
5. Interpret the assessments and creating and implementing a plan.
6. Learn cognitive training exercises in processing, memory, attention, logic and reasoning.
7. Learn classroom connection guidelines for math, spelling, vocabulary, reading, history, comprehension, and writing.
8. Learn Study Skills for a lifetime.
9. Learn classroom instructional

It is used in more than 70 countries and has had its success documented in more than 1000 research articles. Evidence has shown that the "content free" exercises used to increase cognitive structures significantly impact students thinking and change the structure of the brain and impact learning of content. It looks at what lies underneath the curriculum that provides challenges for so many. He deals with humans capacity for cognitive modifiability- how the amiability of the brain/mind to change informs the way we can help students and adults improve their ability to think and learn.

The evidence for neuroplasticity provides a strong support for the potential to overcome the barriers. It is our belief and experience that a human being who possesses the need, belief, intention, and proper tools can be given a way to bypass the barriers and realize the option of modifiability. The age barrier or critical age can be overcome. We believe that human beings are modifiable during the entire course of their lifetimes and can create wonderful changes even at advanced ages.

**Beyond Smarter: Mediated Learning and the Brain’s Capacity for Change**
Dr. Reuven Feuerstein 2010

* Kyle and I are training in these exercises to add to our cognitive development program. We believe the combination will be powerful.

"IQ Does Not Define Us"
Learning Disabilities, Developmental Delay, and Down Syndrome

Our center is currently doing a research project with the University of Louisville.
methods to use with all students.

**Academic Success Center Workbook**
Cognitive Development Curriculum for Teachers and Interventionists

A day by day curriculum designed for cognitive development including working memory, visual processing, attention, processing speed, logic, comprehension, and more. 25 exercises with increasingly difficult levels to increase abilities. Classroom connection activities, instructional methods, and study skills included. Designed for use in the regular or special education classroom, clinic or home environment.

**Contact Carol to schedule a workshop for your school or group.**

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project with the University of Louisville Dept. of Psychological and Brain Sciences for students with Down Syndrome. There are many skeptics in the US that doubt if cognitive gains can be made. However, the evidence is overwhelming that significant gains can and have been made.

You see, Dr. Feuerstein has a grandson with Down Syndrome and has been doing research in this area since 1980. The latest research is posted on [www.academicsuccesscenterky.com](http://www.academicsuccesscenterky.com) and [www.thinkingconnections.org](http://www.thinkingconnections.org)

A journalist knew of his work with Down Syndrome children whom were brought to higher levels of functioning. In response to MLE and exposure to cognitive interventions, many of these young people were able to complete their education and become artist, poets and so forth. He wrote, "The chromosomes, don't have the last word."

Cognitive functioning was improved for children with developmental disabilities.

*If the environment does not require the person to be modified but adapts itself to him or her, what has been called an autoplastic response- meaningful and sustained change will not occur.*

Plasticity works throughout the brain and throughout our lifetimes. New connections are being made and the brain can alter existing structures. Ultimately, existing pathways are altered or new ones are formed. Plasticity allows the brain to rebuild connections that are interrupted or underdeveloped by trauma, disease, or genetic conditions.

No one claims that were these implications positively addressed, individuals would be totally equal.
Intelligence is Modifiable

Nonetheless, evidence shows that these methods have significant impact on the quality of students thinking and literally change the structure of the brain and impact learning of content.

We now have an expansive body of knowledge with the explosion of science and technology that gives us hope and responsibility!

If you would like to partner with us and support the research project or any student/adult who may benefit from our program, please contact me at cbrown@academicsuccesscenterky.com.

All donations are tax deductible through Helping Hands Ministries in Georgia. Visit: www.hhmin.org

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Thank you for your support.

Full evaluation: neurodevelopmental screening, cognitive screening, and personal brain training plan.
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Financial Assistance is available if needed.

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