



**Motivating Students to Achieve Their Highest Potential**

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**Goals for This Presentation**

Investigate and Apply Research-Compatible Strategies to:

- Motivate attentive focus & memory with curiosity & **prediction**
- Motivate sustained interest with achievable challenge and incremental **progress**
- Increase motivation with **personalization** and **participation**

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**POLL QUESTION**

Respond in 20 seconds



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**Poll Results**

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**Motivate  
with curiosity and  
prediction**

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**Prediction Increases  
Motivation to Sustain Attention  
and Develop Memory**



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**Predict:** What Challenge that reduces motivation and is common to most educators and students could be represented by the following three photos?

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# OVERPACKED CURRICULUM

When students make a prediction they are motivated by the **NEED** to know if their prediction is correct.

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**Let's see if your  
Curiosity & Prediction  
Motivates Your  
Sustained Interest**

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**Would you rather have one cent  
doubled everyday for 30 days  
or \$100,000.00 ?**

**Bonus Challenge: Predict (not  
for poll entry) the amount you'd  
have if you received one cent  
doubled everyday for 30 days**

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**Curiosity & Prediction  
Motivates Sustained  
Interest**

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**Are You Curious  
about the Answer?**

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**The answer is One Cent  
because doubling one cent for  
a month would give you  
\$5,368,709.12**

**Are you curious to see why?**

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Day 1: \$.01	Day 17: \$655.36
Day 2: \$.02	Day 18: \$1,310.72
Day 3: \$.04	Day 19: \$2,621.44
Day 4: \$.08	Day 20: \$5,242.88
Day 5: \$.16	Day 21: \$10,485.76
Day 6: \$.32	Day 22: \$20,971.52
Day 7: \$.64	Day 23: \$41,943.04
Day 8: \$1.28	Day 24: \$83,386.08
Day 9: \$2.56	Day 25: \$167,772.16
Day 10: \$5.12	Day 26: \$335,544.32
Day 11: \$10.24	Day 27: \$671,088.64
Day 12: \$20.48	Day 28: \$1,342,177.28
Day 13: \$40.96	Day 29: \$2,684,354.56
Day 14: \$81.92	
Day 15: \$163.84	<b>Day 30:</b>
Day 16: \$327.68	<b><u>\$5,368,709.12</u></b>

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For Motivation  
Just Follow the  
**Computer Game Model**

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The Video Game PULL of Achievable Challenge to Desired Goal



He's so close to Level 10 to even care about going for pizza

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Like video games,  
**achievable challenge  
with incremental progress  
is motivating**

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### Achievable Challenge to Reach Goals

- Evaluate students' levels of achievable challenge (ZPD)
- Challenge level where they believe their effort worthwhile because success is possible (with your scaffolding or other support if needed)

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Guide students to recognize effort-to-progress correlation

**Awareness of making incremental progress**

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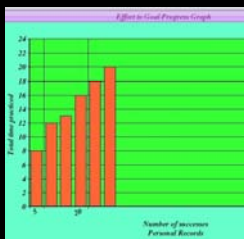
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**Goal Progress Tracking: Students see the connection between their work & practice and their progress** [www.onlinecharttool.com](http://www.onlinecharttool.com)



**Effort=Progress to Goal**

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**Dopamine is a brain chemical that promotes feelings of pleasure or satisfaction**

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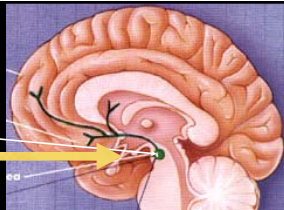
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**Nucleus Accumbens**  
*Dopamine Reward-Center*



Dopamine release to PFC increases from intrinsic reward of correct response

Dopamine release to PFC drops with error recognition

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**For the dopamine-pleasure feedback to work you must provide corrective feedback in about 1 minute**

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## Personalization for MOTIVATION

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## Goal Motivation

- Student knowledge of specific goals from the start
- Student's formulate personal goals that correlate with academic goals

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## Facilitate Motivation

- Collaborate on mutual goals
- Support with resources, rubrics, guidance, formative assessment
- Encouragement: Help students recognize and acknowledge their incremental progress

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**Personalization**

***The “So What” Factor***

**Students need to value the information so they...**

**Want to Learn what you Have to Teach**

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**PERSONALLY  
MEANINGFUL PRIMING  
FOR  
EXPECTATION OF  
POSITIVE EXPERIENCE**

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**PERSONALIZE A  
PERSON OR PLACE  
CONNECTED TO  
THE UNIT**

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*Book author anecdote  
about Charlie*



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**Charles Dickens**  
*Oliver Twist*



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**Personal Relevance**

- Update Lessons with Here-Me-Now
- Connect to current events
- Relate to students' interests to keep lessons relevant at a personal level

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For students to Remain  
Motivated, Attentive, and  
for the Dopamine-Reward  
Response to work

Students Must  
**PARTICIPATE**

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**Increase Participation  
to Reduce the Stress  
of Boredom or  
Frustration**

How can you have all  
students respond, without  
raising their anxiety?

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**ONLY THE PERSON  
WHO THINKS,  
LEARNS**

Instead of having students raise their  
hands to respond to questions....

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Have students respond to your questions using individual whiteboards



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**SUMMARY:**

**Overpacked Curriculum and Teaching to the Test results in low personalization and little opportunity to recognize incremental progress toward personally meaningful goals.**

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**Motivate**

- Personal Relevance for student engagement
- Teacher knowledge and enthusiasm for subject
- Achievable Challenge to Desirable Goals
- Positive Mindset when students recognize the incremental progress from effort relationship (effort-achievement graphs)
- Brain Owner's Manual especially Neuroplasticity

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***Evidence of Motivated, Active Learning***

- Observing and noticing with focused attention
- Discovering, thinking, questioning
- Engaged, motivated, interested = self-propelled learners

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- \* Behavior management improves overall because motivated focus is sustained by curiosity and personal meaning
- \* Long-term memory increases due to memorable engagement
- \* Information becomes more than a school subject isolated from students' lives and becomes conceptual and transferable

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MY WEBSITE FOR ACCESS TO ARTICLES I'VE WRITTEN, BOOK CHAPTERS, AND TO MY EMAIL

[www.RADTeach.com](http://www.RADTeach.com)

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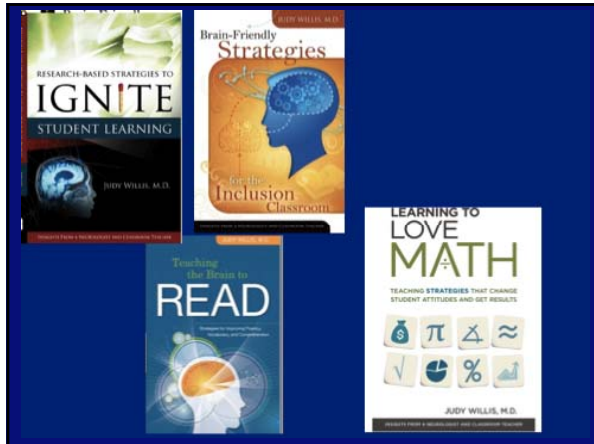
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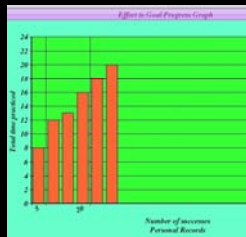
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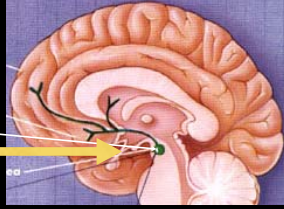
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## Nucleus Accumbens

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Reward-Center



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After the webinar: **Ask Dr. Judy**, Share Ideas, Brainstorm With Other Professional Educators on the

**ASCD Edge Discussion Group:**

### ***How the Brain Learns***

<http://edge.ascd.org/How-the-Brain-Learns/group/110564/127586.html>

I'll look for questions or comments, especially those tagged in the title with "**Ask Dr Judy Question**" that I'll often respond to on the website and/or in an upcoming Webinar.

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