



Session 3: Educator Self-Care and Social Awareness Trainer: Michelle Kelsey Mitchell Director of Partnerships

#### **Getting Started:**

- 1. You will receive a follow-up email within 24 hours of this session and that will serve as your certificate of completion.
- 2. If you have any questions, please type them into the Q&A box.
- 3. Remember to also sign up and register in your respective agency's system in order to earn credit hours.
- 4. If you'd like, grab a pen/pencil/paper to jot done your thoughts.



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### Introductions

Michelle Kelsey Mitchell **michelle@pureedgeinc.org** Director of Partnerships & National Trainer





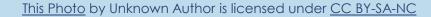
### Introductions



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Respond to the poll to tell us a little about yourself.





### Who We Are

**Pure Edge, Inc. (PEI)** is a private operating foundation that provides direct service to organizations through professional development & strategy thought partnership.

PEI also provides grants to national organizations that advance the work of whole child development & SEL.





# Welcoming Activity: True or False



# Respond to the questions via the poll



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# Session Review





## **Brain Breaks and Key Concepts**



- Anchor Breathing
- Starfish Breathing or Take Five
- Even In Even Out
- ✤ Alternate Nostril Breathing



- Stork
- Eagle Chair & Standing
- Chair Cat/Cow
- Sunrise/Sunset



- Mindful Listening
- STOP
- Guided Rest or Body Scan

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- ✓ Allostatic Load
- ✓ Body Awareness
- ✓ Transformative SEL
- ✓ 6 Critical Healing Factors

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### Social and Emotional Learning Competencies

- Identifying emotions
- Self-perception/Identity
- Recognizing strengths
- Sense of self-confidence
- Self-efficacy
- Integrating personal and socio-cultural identities
- Analyzing of beliefs, mindsets, and biases
- Social interdependence



- Impulse control
- Stress management
- Self-discipline
- Self-motivation
- Perseverance
- Goal-setting
- Organizational skills
- Personal and collective agency





### Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) CASEL Competencies

Educators and education leaders do have control over how they view themselves, their students, the school community, the world, and how they act on these perspectives.



Educators and leaders who employ adult SE competencies are equipped to influence lasting changes to address inequities at the community, district, and State levels.



# Learning Objectives

- Identify the aspects of social awareness.
- Experience simple self-care strategies throughout.
- Describe SEL and its competencies with a focus on social awareness.





### Social and Emotional Learning Competencies

The ability to take the perspective of and empathize with others, including those from diverse backgrounds and cultures. The ability to understand social and ethical norms for behavior and to recognize family, school, and community resources and supports.





### Social and Emotional Learning Competencies





- Empathy
- Appreciating diversity
- Respect for others
- Recognizing setting demands and opportunities
- Determining common social goals and interests





#### Improved mood

#### **Neurochemicals**

#### **Neurotransmitters**

Endorphins

#### **Improved memory**





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### "Gas Pedal" Sympathetic Nervous System: Fight or Flight

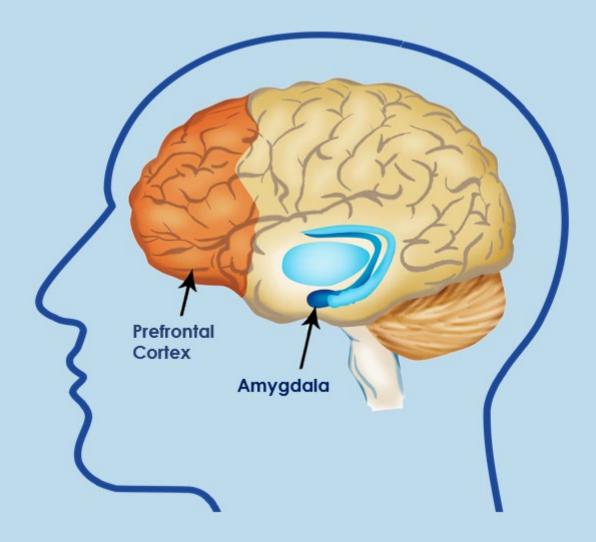


### "Brake" Parasympathetic Nervous System: Rest and Digest





https://www.health.harvard.edu/staying-healthy/understanding-the-stress-response Image Sources: https://www.shutterstock.com/video/clip-22377115-tired, https://ggia.berkeley.edu/practice





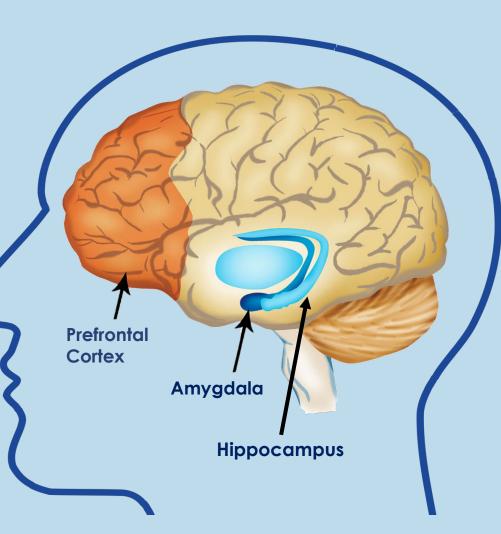


#### **Prefrontal Cortex or PFC**

- Helps solve complex problems
- Helps you choose between right and wrong
- Seat of good judgement
- Allows you to pause and think before reacting
- Supports self-regulation

#### Amygdala

- "almond"
- Keeps you safe
- On the lookout for danger
- Reacts quickly (fight/flight/freeze/faint)
- Recalls emotional memories



#### Hippocampus

- "horse monster"
- Brain's scrapbook or hard drive
- Stores information/factual memories
- Makes meaning out of stored memories
- Compares new information to stored memories



# Engaging Activity: What did you see first?

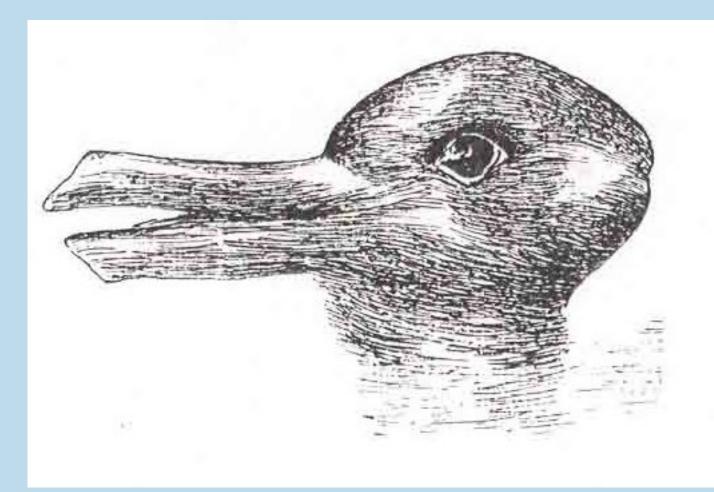
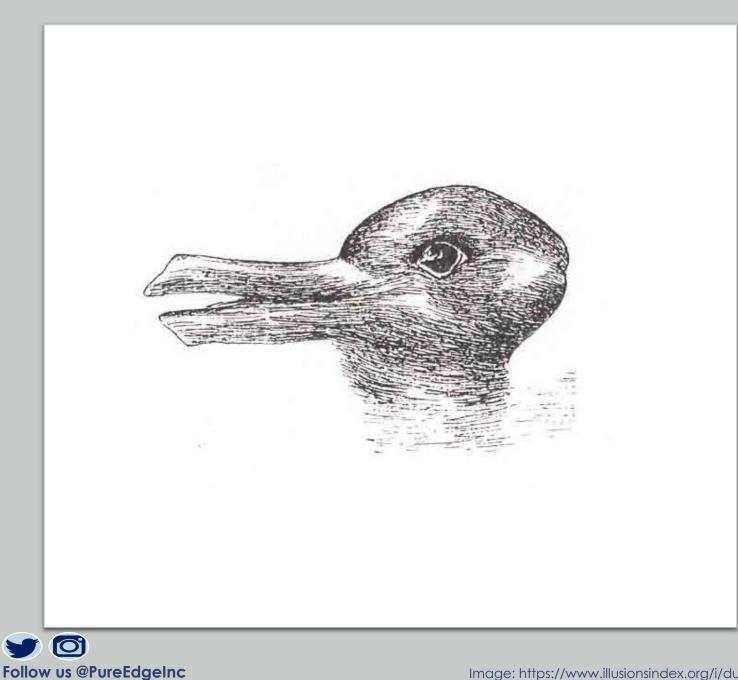






Image: https://www.illusionsindex.org/i/duck-rabbit



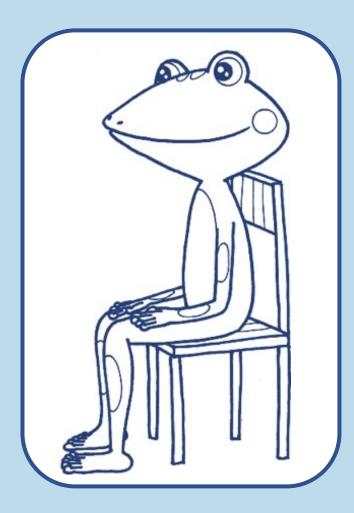
We interpret situations, people's actions, and even pictures differently.

- Sometimes, we're too quick to judge a situation.
- We don't always take the time to fully consider other perspective.





# Engaging Activity: Even In - Even Out

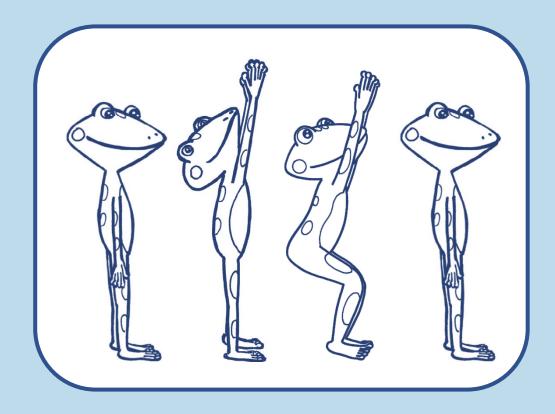








# Engaging Activity: Mountain/Chair Strength Sequence



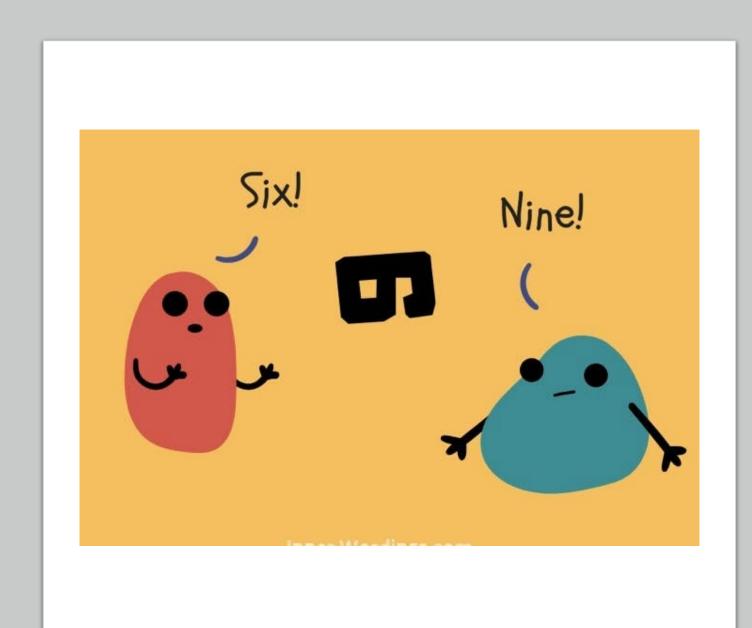








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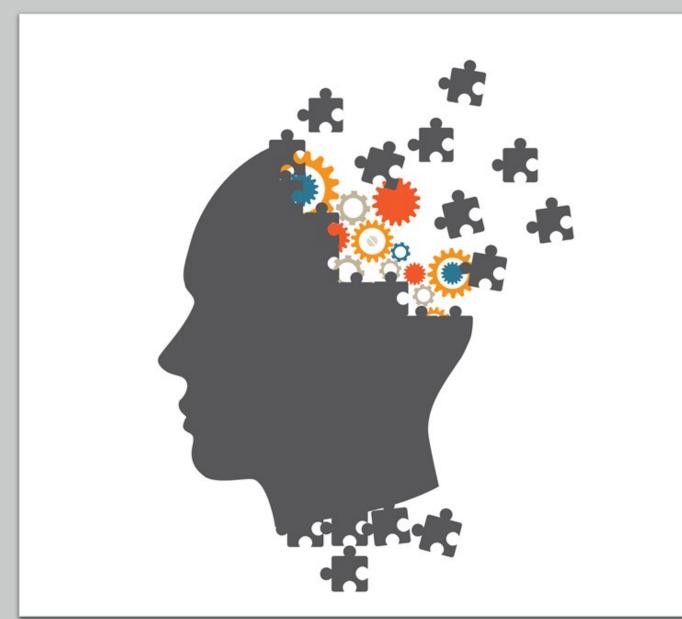
### Bias

An inherent or learned prejudice against a thing, person, or group when compared with another.<sup>1</sup>

Nearly all humans share a **negativity bias**, that is...our tendency to hold on to or collect negative information in the form of **memories** or **impressions**.







### Negativity Bias

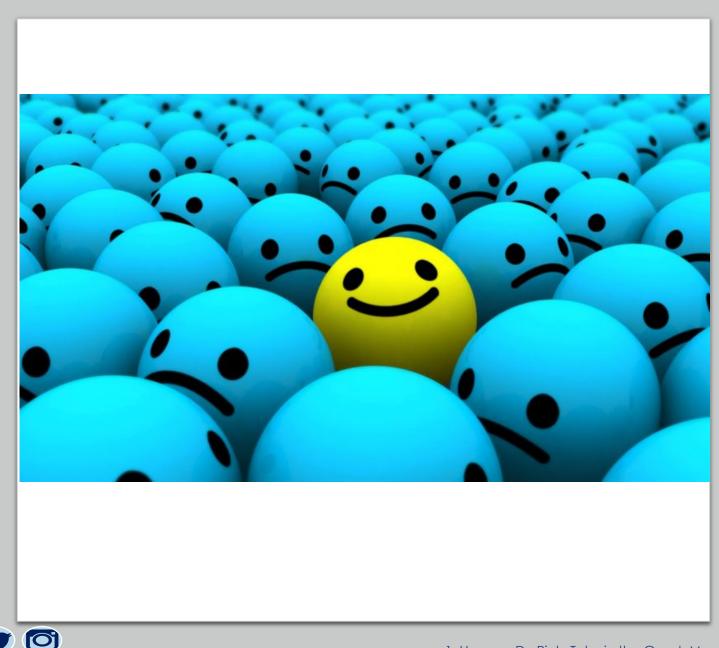
Negativity bias can take the shape of:

Excessive worry
Anxiety
Frustration
Aggression
Judgement

Sometimes it leads us to look for or expect danger.







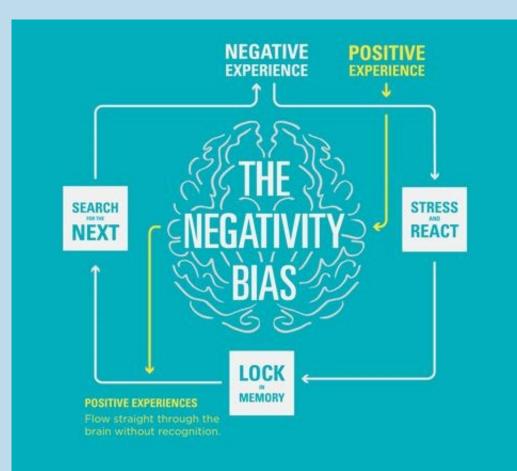
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### Negativity Bias

For example, studies have found that:

- In a relationship, it typically takes five good interactions to make-up for a single bad one.
- People will work much harder to **avoid losing \$100** than they will work to gain the same amount of money.
- **Painful experiences** are much more memorable than pleasurable ones.<sup>1</sup>





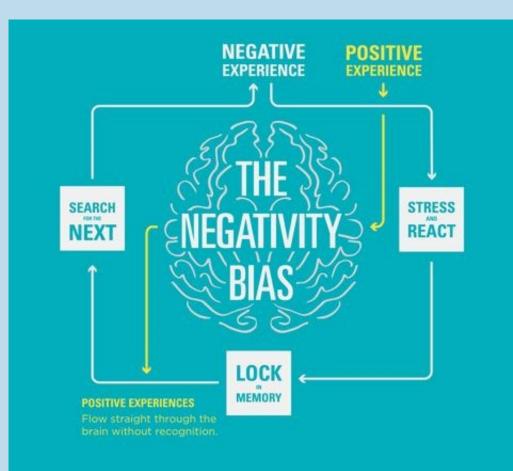
"The brain is like Velcro for negative experiences and like Teflon for positive ones."<sup>1</sup>

That shades "implicit memory" – your underlying expectations, beliefs, action strategies, and mood – in an increasingly **negative direction**.





1: Rick Hanson and Rick Mendius, "Positive Emotions and Taking In the Good," 2007. http://www.wisebrain.org/PositiveEmotions,pdf



- Meaning, unpleasant experiences stick to the brain's longer-term memory.
- While pleasant experiences are less likely to stay put.
  - It takes <u>2-3</u> seconds for one's brain to remember something unpleasant.

It takes <u>20-30</u> seconds for your brain to remember something pleasant.





We absorb and appreciate the experience of a positive thought or memory in order to cultivate resilience and gratitude.



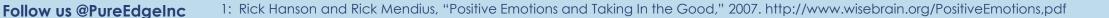


## How to "Take in the Good"



- 1. Look for good facts and turn them into good experiences.
- 2. Really enjoy the experience.
- 3. Intend and sense that good experiences are sinking into you.<sup>1</sup>







### Online

More and more time is spent online. Computers, phones and the internet are useful or required tools for school, work, socializing and in business.

How many hours do you think you spend on the internet or social media, **per day**?

- 3 • 5
- 7
- 10+



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## Social Awareness Online

Since the internet has become the norm, our brains have become more and **more dependent** on it.



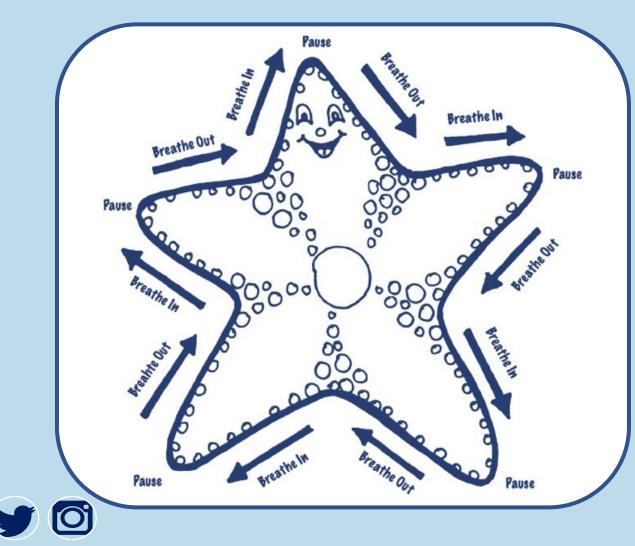
Studies show that chronic, long-term internet use can have an impact on **executive functions** of the brain and impair one's ability to feel:

- Compassion
- Empathy<sup>1</sup>



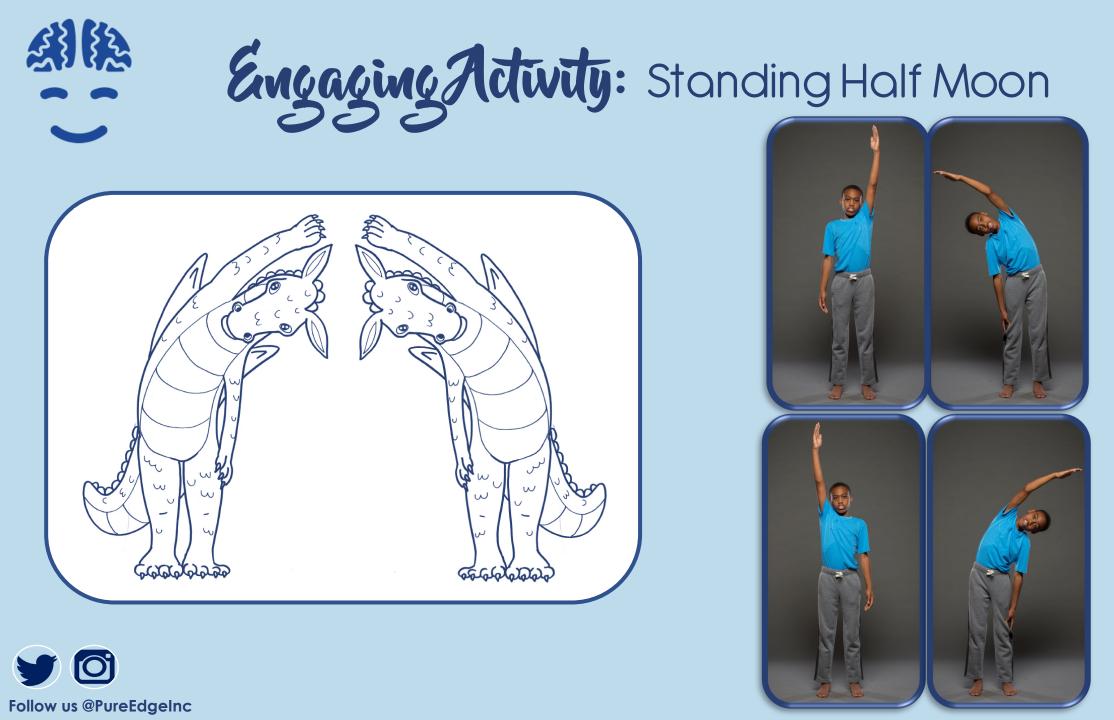
Victoria Dunckley, "Gray Matters: Too Much Screen Time Damages the Brain," Psychology Today. https://www.psychologytoday.com/blog/mental-wealth/201402/gray-matters-too-much-screen-time-damages-the-brain ©2020 Pure Edge, Inc.

# Engaging Activity: Starfish Breathing or Take Five



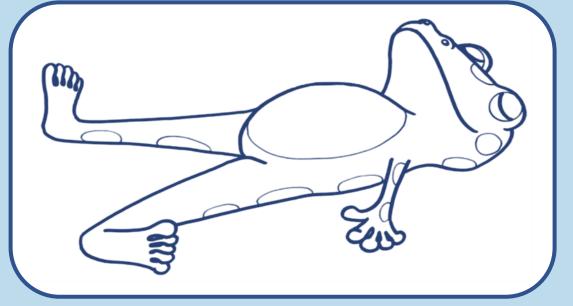








# Engaging Activity: Guided Rest or Body Scan











- Taking in the Good entails focusing on the positive in what is occurring or has already occurred.
- Therefore, absorbing and appreciating the experience itself of a positive thought or memory in order to **cultivate resilience** and **gratitude**.

A brain-science savvy and psychological skillful way to improve how you feel, get things done, and treat others.<sup>1</sup>





1: Rick Hanson and Rick Mendius, "Positive Emotions and Taking In the Good," 2007. http://www.wisebrain.org/PositiveEmotions,pdf

# Optimistic Closure: One Word Takeaway







Photo: Juan Monino











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