

Next Ready Playground:
the 45 minute play date



ATTENDEE CHECK-IN CODE
35GM

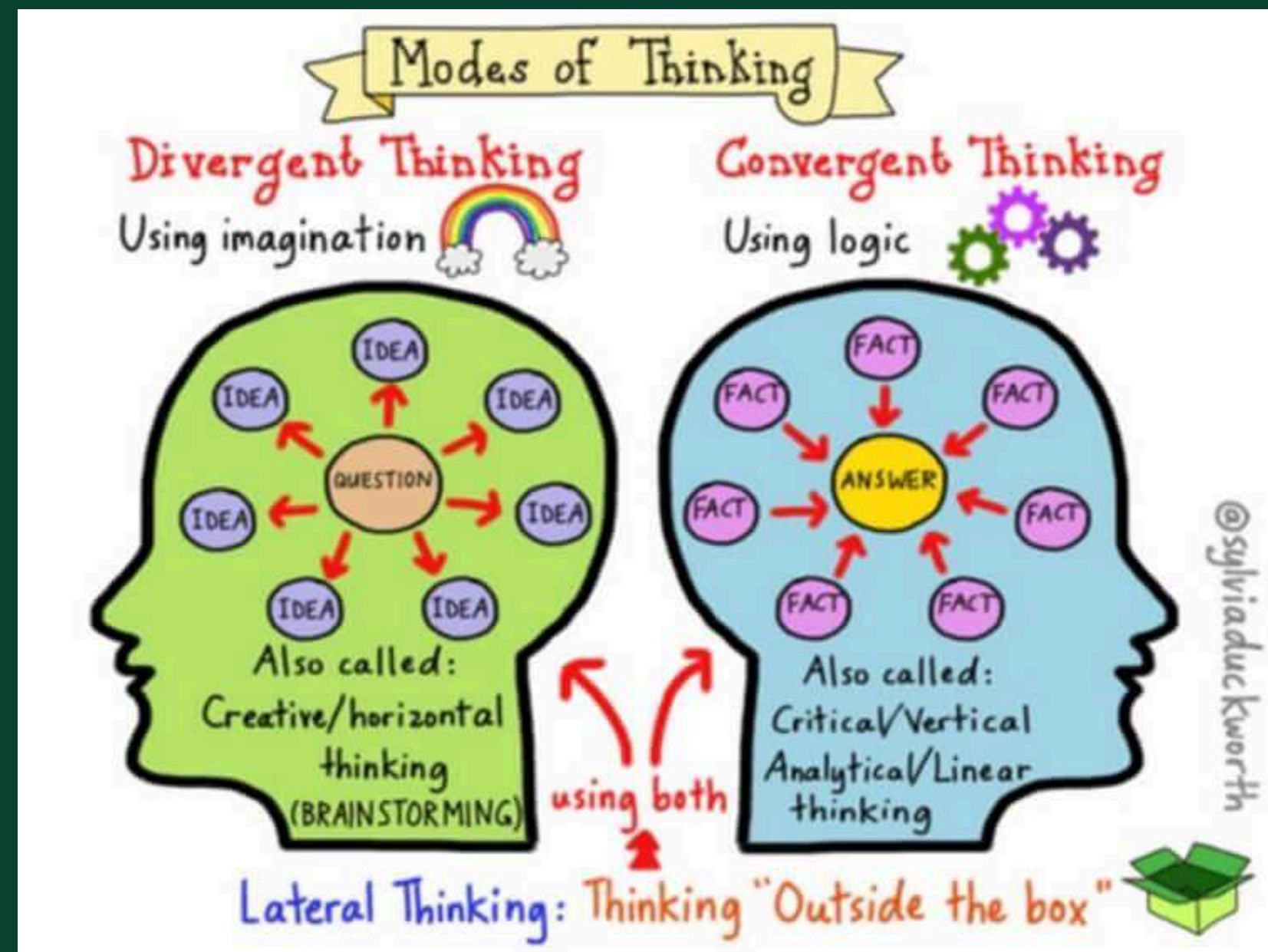
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Age Group	Scoring at “Genius” Level
5	98%
10	30%
15	12%
Adults 31+	2%

"Non-creative behavior is learned." — Dr. George Land



The Problem: Fighting the Brain's Pedals

Divergent Thinking: The Gas Pedal

- Generates endless, messy possibilities.

Convergent Thinking: The Brake Pedal

- Judges, filters, and finds the one correct answer.

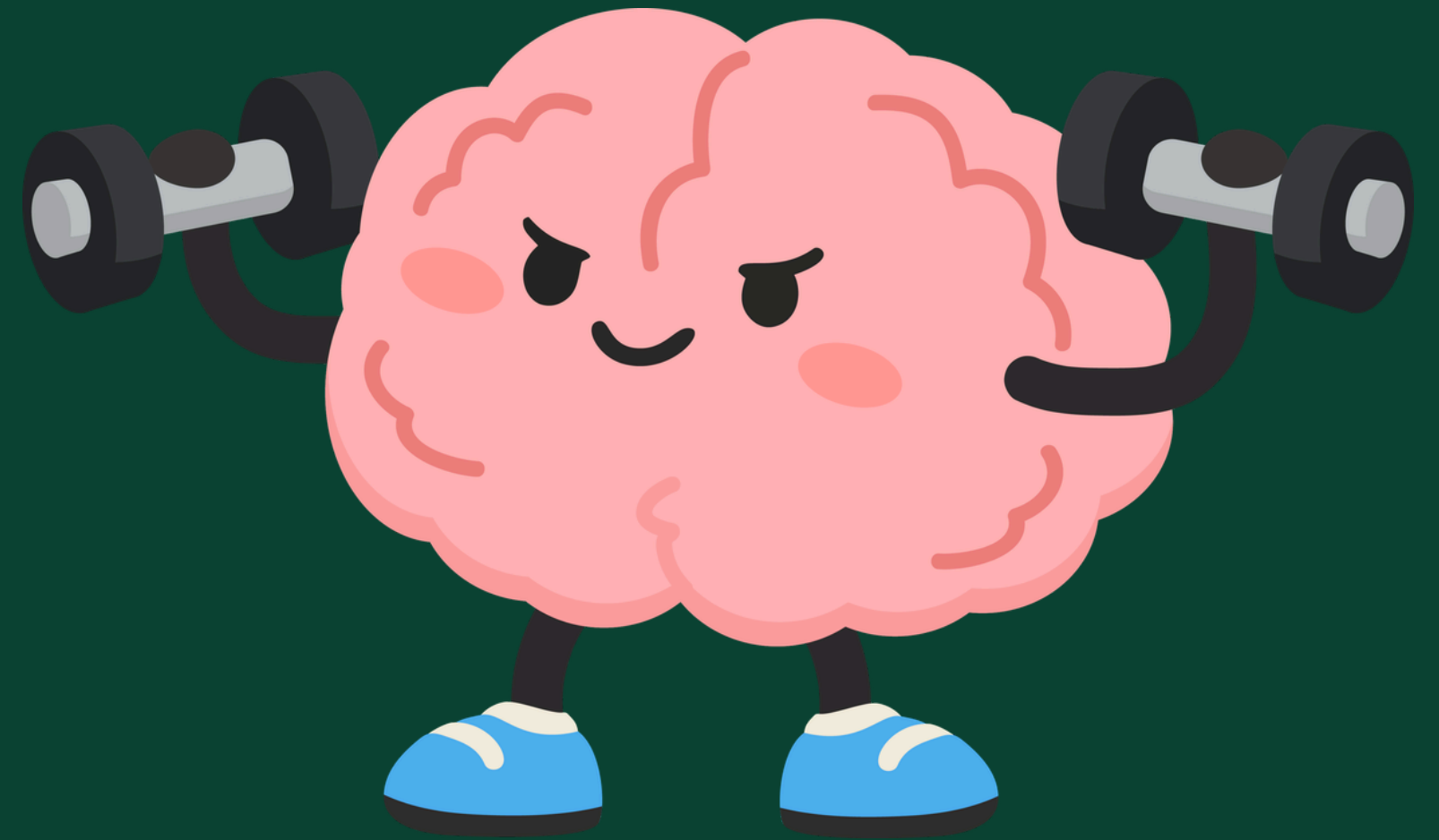


The Science of Play.

Neuroplasticity & Dopamine: Play stimulates the secretion of BDNF

The Prefrontal Cortex (PFC): The PFC handles executive functioning—judgment, planning, impulse control, and emotional regulation.

Lowering the Affective Filter: When stress is high, the amygdala hijacks the brain, blocking learning.





Taboo Translators

"Yes" "No". "Keep Guessing"

1. Clue Giver
2. Receiver
3. Taboo noise maker

PLAY

Game

Fun

Work

Toy

Child

3 question link:

Great Oaks Next Ready

EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATORS	CRITICAL THINKERS	ADAPTABLE NAVIGATORS	ACCOUNTABLE EMPLOYEES	SKILLED PROFESSIONALS
- Provide clear oral and written communication. - Listen actively, read body language/tone, and respond in a clear/professional way. - Give/take feedback in a professional manner. - Recognize how people are feeling, know that actions impact others, and work through disagreements.	- Locate, organize, and use reliable information while considering different perspectives. - Analyze problems, develop creative solutions, and apply learning to work and life. - Take calculated risks, persevere through challenges, and find ways to succeed. - Reflect on learning and communicate thinking processes.	- Understand the world is constantly changing and keep learning/adapting. - Consider different perspectives and shift as necessary. - Adjust quickly when things change unexpectedly. - View challenges as opportunities to learn and grow.	- Take ownership of decisions, actions, and mistakes. - Keep promises, make ethical choices in all situations, and build trust/respect. - Share relevant information and promote open communication/collaboration. - Strive to do the right thing, even when faced with tough choices.	- Set a positive example in all situations. - Exceed minimum requirements and take pride in work. - Master career content and skills with confidence. - Develop skills/dedication to compete and grow in the workforce.



1. What just happened (The Game)?
2. What did it require from you (The Skill)?
3. Where does this live in the real world? (The Transfer)?

The 3 minute Tower

The Initial Task: In groups of 3 to 4, students must build the tallest possible freestanding tower using only a pad of sticky notes.

02:57



The PIVOT Routine

What's it mean to pivot?

85

3 question link:

Great Oaks Next Ready

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Next Ready Charades/Pictionary



Running a red light due to texting and driving

**Welding without proper PPE or
conducting a Chemistry experiment
without safety glasses**

3 question link:

Great Oaks Next Ready

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YOUR
TURN



02:57

Play is not the enemy of rigor; it is the engine of engagement. When we give students a playground to test their professional skills, we build workers who are not just ready for the next test, but ready for the next economy."



*WHY IT
MATTERS?*

Great Oaks Next Ready

EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATORS

- Provide clear oral and written communication.
- Listen actively, read body language/tone, and respond in a clear/professional way.
- Give/take feedback in a professional manner.
- Recognize how people are feeling, know that actions impact others, and work through disagreements.



CRITICAL THINKERS

- Locate, organize, and use reliable information while considering different perspectives.
- Analyze problems, develop creative solutions, and apply learning to work and life.
- Take calculated risks, persevere through challenges, and find ways to succeed.
- Reflect on learning and communicate thinking processes.



ADAPTABLE NAVIGATORS

- Understand the world is constantly changing and keep learning/adapting.
- Consider different perspectives and shift as necessary.
- Adjust quickly when things change unexpectedly.
- View challenges as opportunities to learn and grow.



ACCOUNTABLE EMPLOYEES

- Take ownership of decisions, actions, and mistakes.
- Keep promises, make ethical choices in all situations, and build trust/respect.
- Share relevant information and promote open communication/collaboration.
- Strive to do the right thing, even when faced with tough choices.



SKILLED PROFESSIONALS

- Set a positive example in all situations.
- Exceed minimum requirements and take pride in work.
- Master career content and skills with confidence.
- Develop skills/dedication to compete and grow in the workforce.

