## Utilising daily experiences to build a happier brain

## Karyn Chalk

- Licensed Brain Health Trainer
- Positive Neuroplasticity Trainer

www.changingways.co.nz

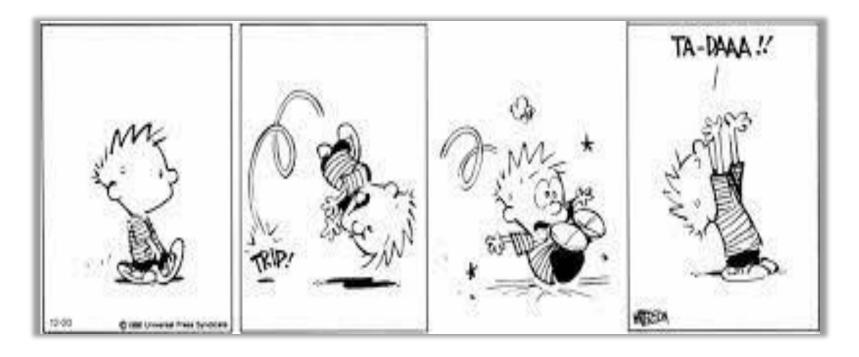


# Our journey...

- Introduce red zone and green zone
- Introduce Positive Neuroplasticity
- How to utilise Positive Neuroplasticity

to build a happier brain





Life is not about how fast you run, or how high you jump. It's about how well you bounce.

# **3 Core needs of the brain**



We need to feel safe. Physical and emotional safety is an inbuilt survival mechanism inside of us.

We need to feel satisfied. Feeling like we can achieve some goals, having food to eat, experiencing some pleasure.

We need to feel connected. To belong in a herd. Some caring flowing in, some caring flowing out.

## **Red Zone**

#### **Stress hormones have been activated**

- Heart beating faster
- Thoughts speed up
- Feel stressed and rattled
- Vulnerable
- Alarm bells ring more easily and loudly

## Very hard to sleep

## **Green Zone – Home base**

Mind defaults to

Basically safe Basically satisfied Basically connected Body defaults to Refuel Repair Recover

## **Green Zone – Home base**

- Mammals become curious, playful, friendly
- Meet challenges, be strong and determined
- Less like to provoke others, less likely to be provoked

#### **Easier to sleep**

## Mother Natures Survival Plan



## Recover from them quickly

Build inner strengths

# **Building a happier brain**

Rick Hanson, Hardwiring Happiness



## Have a beneficial experience



## Enrich the experience



### Absorb the experience





#### Link the experience to help heal from past hurts. (Optional step)

# **Benefits of building inner strengths**

You live life more frequently in the green zone brain.





# **3 Core needs of the brain prescription**

We need to feel safe. Ok in this moment, protected.

We need to feel satisfied. Good facts, pleasure, beauty.

We need to feel connected. Feeling seen, heard, included, appreciated, valued and loved.

Just before bed, your mind is very receptive.

So....No matter what went wrong today

Find something that went right

Open to it and let those good feelings flow in.

**Dr Rick Hanson** 

# To find out more

## www.changingways.co.nz

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