



LEC

# What Brains Do When They Learn Reach Them to Teach Them

## Professional Development for Elementary and Middle School Educators

This highly interactive half-day or full-day seminar covers the latest learning regarding the functioning of the brain and converts that into practical classroom strategies to propel engagement and learning. The depth and coverage will depend on whether a half-day or full-day training is requested. Specific topics covered may include the following. The emphasis and topics covered may be customized for a particular session in consultation with the school/district sponsoring the session:

- Basic brain anatomy and function
- Stages of brain development and windows of learning opportunity
- Gender differences and the implications for education
- The key cognitive processes and how they are impacted by environment, teaching and learning styles, and training
  - Attention and Perception
  - Concept Development and Organization
  - Auditory and Visual Discrimination
  - Short-term and Long-term Memory
  - Working Memory
  - Retrieval of Information
  - Integration with Prior Learning
  - Comprehension
  - Reasoning and Logic
  - Planning
  - Sensory Integration
- The emotions and learning
- How threats, stress, and exposure to violence affect learning
- Brain-based learning strategies
- Developing stronger basic cognitive skills
- Developing higher-order thinking skills

Handouts and reference materials are provided.

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