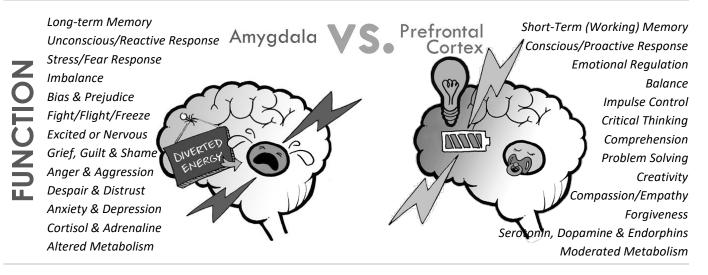




NFLUENCE

EVEL.





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Mental Fitness Exercises

BALANCE

- □ Feel your feelings (practice being mindful of how you feel and why)
- □ Practice meditation or controlled breathing (relax and oxygenate your brain)
- □ Talk or journal ("unload" thoughts and feelings in a healthful and helpful way)
- □ Move your body (to balance your body chemistry and release endorphins)

FLEXIBILITY

- Get creative (bring your ideas to life and don't worry about perfection)
- □ Practice gratitude (focus on what's good to reduce stress and find support)
- □ Try something new (stimulate your brain with a new food, activity, subject, etc.)
- □ Play a game (for the fun and challenge of it—because even losing is learning!)

REST & RECOVERY

- □ Take a break (step away from a stressful situation to calm and refocus)
- □ Turn off or hide your phone (limit distractions and stressful media consumption)
- Eat well and hydrate (your brain and body need essential nutrients to operate)
- Get enough quality sleep (7-9 hours to allow detoxifying deep sleep cycles)

STRENGTH & ENDURANCE

- □ Find your motivation (identify what and/or who inspires you!)
- □ **Practice visualization** (warm-up your brain and body to work together)
- □ Listen to music (make a playlist to relax or motivate your brain and body)
- Reward your success (reinforce the behavior so you'll want to do it again!)

* Practice <u>recognizing</u> and <u>reducing</u> fear, worry, shame, guilt, and blame that trigger your amygdala.