# "Movement is the door to learning."

Paul Dennison, PhDFounder, Brain Gym<sup>®</sup>

## "To move is to learn."

Rita Edwards, Diplomate OTBrain Gym<sup>®</sup> Instructor, Cape Town, SA "Exercise is really for the brain, not the body. It affects mood, vitality, alertness, and feelings of well being."

Dr. John J. Ratey, M.D.Clinical Assoc. Prof. Harvard Medical School

# "Movement is the source of self-creating."

Svetlana Masgutova, PhDFounder, Ascension Institute, Moscow, RU Founder, International Neurokinesiology Institute, Warsaw, PL

# "The more you do, the less you need."

Paul HymanToronto, CA Brain Gym<sup>®</sup> Instructor Founder, Addiction Recovery Management Corp. President, Brain Fitness International

# MOVE TO SUCCESS: BRAINGAME IN ACTION

BETH S. STODDARD, MBA LICENSED BRAIN GYM<sup>®</sup> PRACTITIONER FELECIA L. L. PEASE, MS EDADM LICENSED BRAIN GYM<sup>®</sup> PRACTITIONER

# disclosure

The presenters DO have an interest in selling a technology, program, product and/or service to CME/CE professionals.

# disclaimer

We are not licensed to diagnose, treat, or attempt to cure any medical condition. We simply invite you to do some activities that may bring change to how your body interacts, learns, and functions.

Please listen to your body and do not do any movements that may cause discomfort.

# Agenda

- Introductions/Acknowledging/Disclaimer
- Brain Gym Principles
- PACE
- History of Brain Gym<sup>®</sup>
- Safety and Connection
- Studies
- Three Dimensions of Intelligence
- What's Happening in Maine
- Next Steps
- Resources
- Recommended Reading

# **Brain Gym® Principles**

- Draw Out: Intelligence is Inborn
   Focus: Attention Follows Intention
   Notice: We Learn What We Actively Experience
- 4. Move to Learn: Growth Is a Search for Balance, Imbalance Is a Search for Growth
- 5. Interconnect: Each of Us Is Affected by Every Other

## **PACE** Energized > Active > Clear > Positive

Four step process which creates readiness for learning Can be done anywhere at any time Your body will do what it needs to do after

you do PACE



# PACE Energetic



### **Drinking Water**

- Increases oxygen uptake of hemoglobin 100-1000x, leads to increased comfort, energy, and mental clarity, and reduces eyestrain.
- We lose 2.5 quarts of water per day.
- Water is most easily absorbed at room temperature.

PACE Clear

### **Brain Buttons**

- Wake up senses
- Increase/Improve
  - Attention to detail
  - Speed
  - Comfort
- Good for
  - Handling multiple tasks
  - Interpreting language
  - Inputting accurately



# PACE Active



### **Cross Crawls**

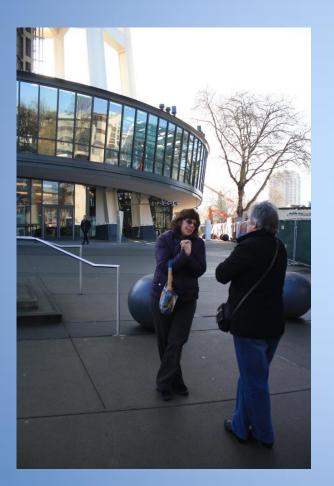
- Activates both sides of the brain and body (eyes, ears, etc.)
- Helps with
  - Sitting comfortably
  - Following instructions
  - Attention to detail
  - Coordination
  - Public speaking
  - Crossing the midline
  - Maintaining postural flexibility

PACE Positive

Hook-Ups

- Connects all 12 meridians and 2 channels
- Both sides working as one
- Helps with
  - Maintaining positive energy
  - Being assertive
  - Staying on schedule
  - Sense of humor
  - Seeing others' point of view
  - Maintaining self-control
  - Setting limits
  - Accessing positive self-concept

# PACE Positive





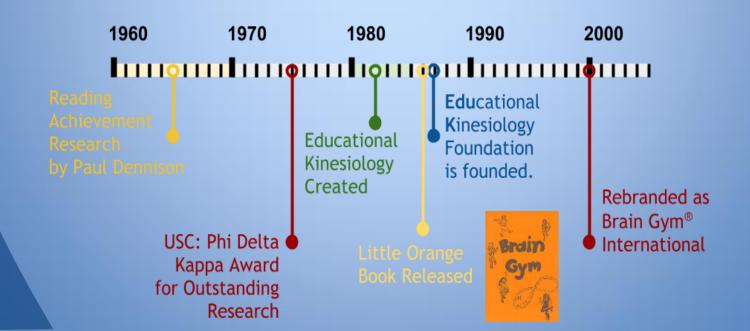
Part I

### Part II



**Founders** 

- Paul E. Dennison, Ph.D
  - Professional educator and pioneer in the field of applied neuroscience and a world authority on cognitive skills and reading achievement
- Gail E. Dennison co-founder and co-creator
  - Artist and movement educator
- Supported by a handful of dedicated Brain Gym<sup>®</sup> Practitioners
   Global
  - Used in 87 Countries
  - Available in 40+ Languages



# What is Brain Gym<sup>®</sup>?

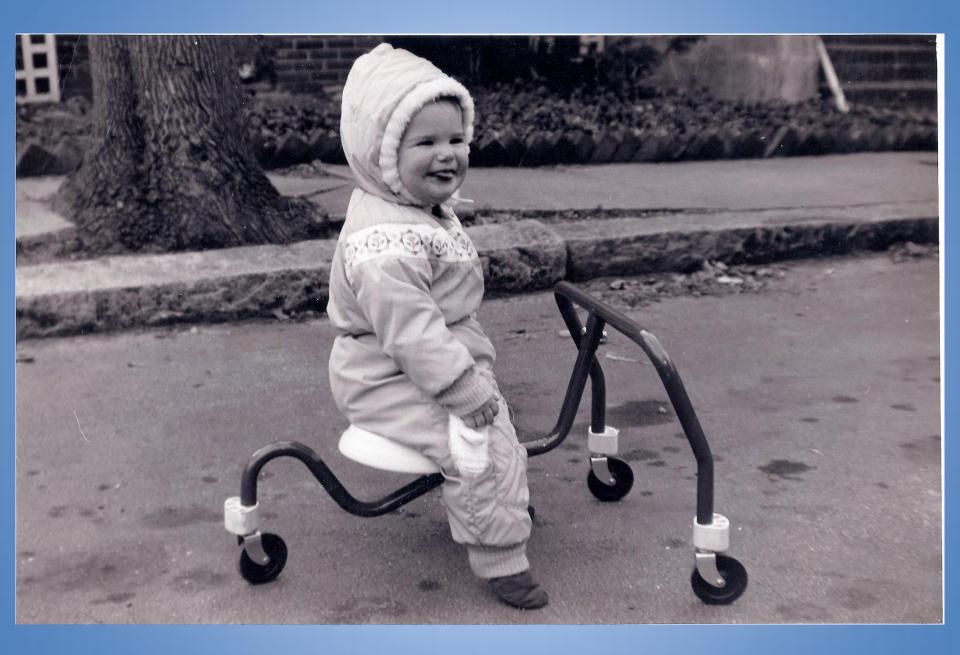
### The Program Educational Kinesiology

- 26 movements or poses
  - Based on
    - Natural movements of children 0-3
    - Developmental stages of the human body
  - Create neural pathways for particular skills used in learning
- Movement-based approach
  - Empowers all ages to reclaim the joys of living

# The Foundation Brain Gym<sup>®</sup> International

- Non-profit foundation
- Based in Ventura, CA
- 30 international faculty members
- Protects quality and consistency of the program and holds trademark.

# Safety and Connection



# **Studies**

Results of increased movement for Children -Particularly Brain Gym movements

## SPARK Dr. John Ratey, M.D.

- 19,000 students in Naperville, IL
- Focus on fitness, not sports.
- Weekly mile run, graded with heart rate monitors for a "personal best."
- Daily P.E.
- Additional focus on nutrition.

# **SPARK Results**

97% participation (203 8th graders) took the <u>Trends in</u> <u>International Mathematics and Science</u> test.

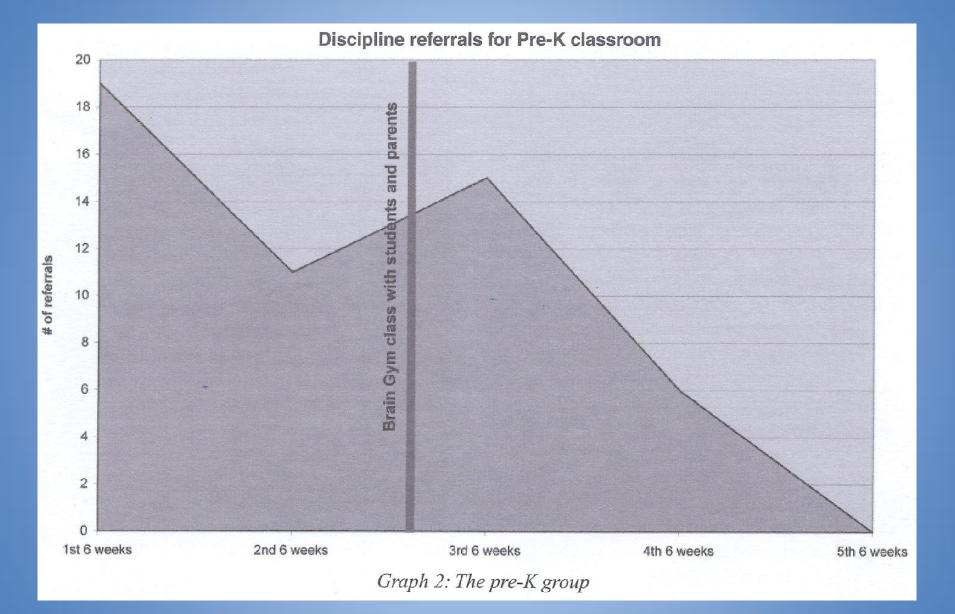
- Math: 6th place, behind Singapore, Korea, Taiwan, Hong Kong and Japan
- Science: 1<sup>st</sup> place, followed by Singapore

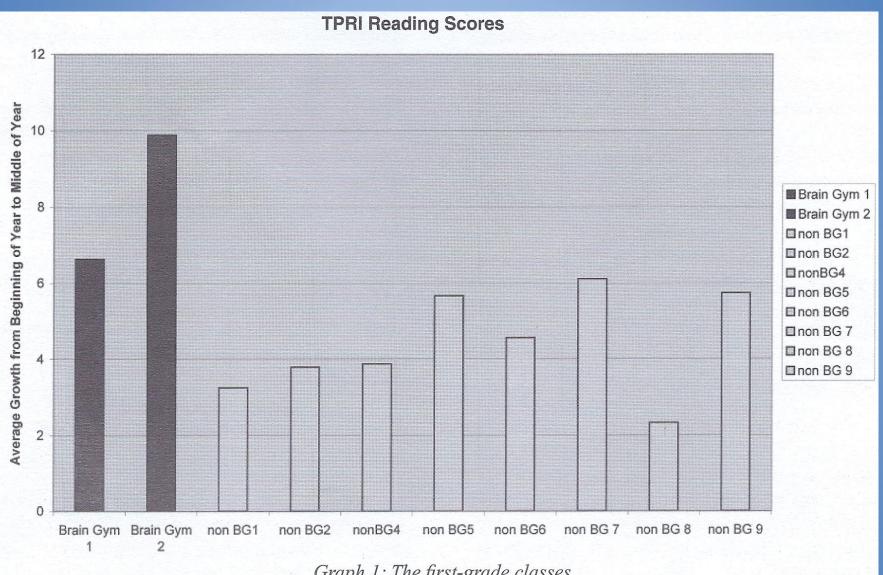
### Results of Pre-K/1<sup>st</sup> Gr. Brain Gym<sup>®</sup> Mt. Pleasant, TX

Thaddeus Trahan, Jr., M.S., Brain Gym<sup>®</sup>, Touch for Health and Bal-A-Vis-X Instructor. 2005

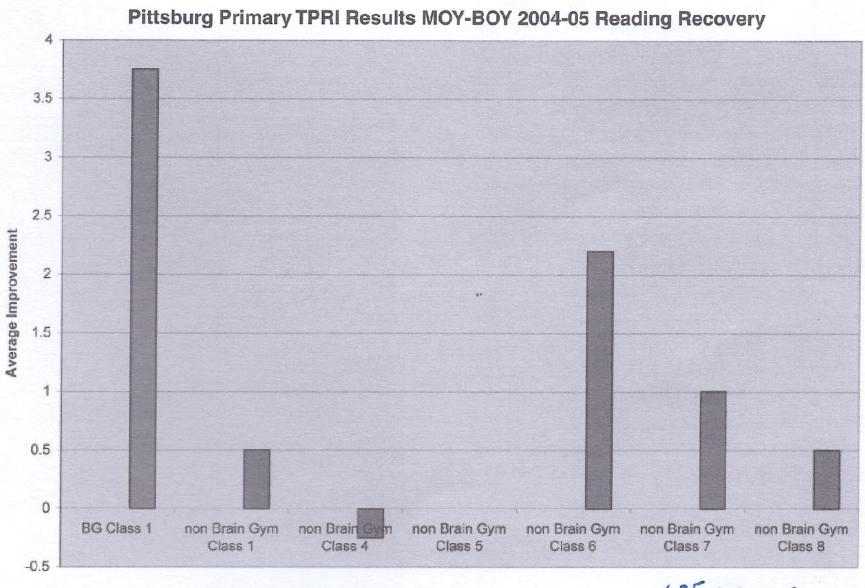
Brain Gym was used from September to Mid-Year.

- Discipline Referral Reduction for Pre-K classroom
- Average Reading Score Growth as validated by Texas Primary Reading Inventory (TPRI) 1st Gr
- Reading Recovery Improvement (TPRI) 1st Gr





Graph 1: The first-grade classes



Graph 3: The Reading Recovery classes

IST GRADE

# How Brain Gym Helped Me with ADHD

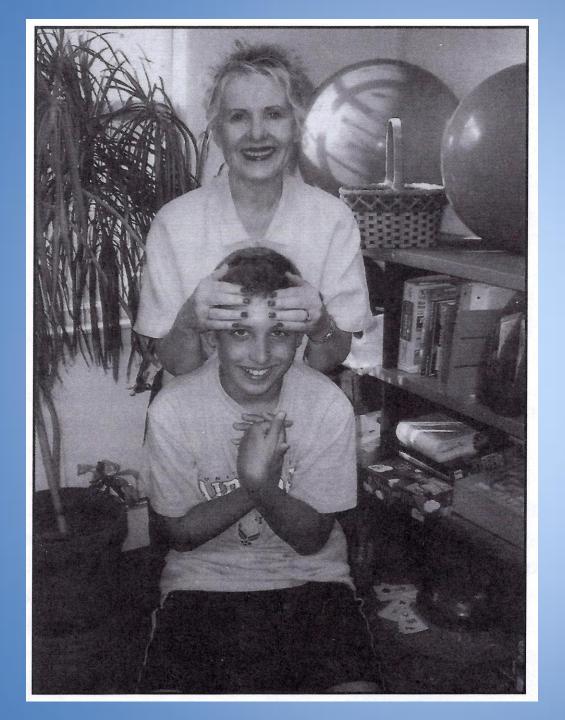
by Raymond Downs, Age 12, Pennsylvania, 2006

Before

- No control over mind and body
- Disrespectful of parents
- Rough, insensitive with friends
- Knew he was a good boy but didn't know how to act like one

# After a few weeks

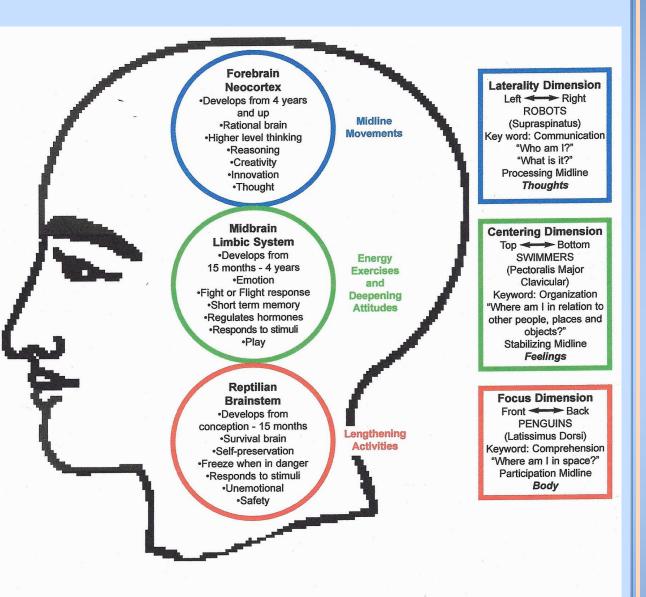
- Stopped meds and started to feel better
- Could set goals and work toward them
- Behavior improved and listened to mom
- Grades up, Friends up, SELF-ESTEEM UP



# **Raymond Downs**

# Three Dimensions of Intelligence

Focus, Centering, and Laterality



ne riune **Brain with** Brain Gym® Dimensions

Brain Gym® is the registered trademark of Brain Gym International, Ventura,CA., www.braingym.org Information from Paul MacLean's Triune Brain Theory, Brain Gym for PE, Athletics & Movement Arts by Carol Ann Erickson and Shirley Miekka, I Am the Child by Cecelia Freeman and Smart Moves: Why Learning is Not All in Your Head by Carla Hannaford. Compiled by Bonnie Hershey, The Kinesiology Connection, kinesconn@aol.com, 8/01

# Focus

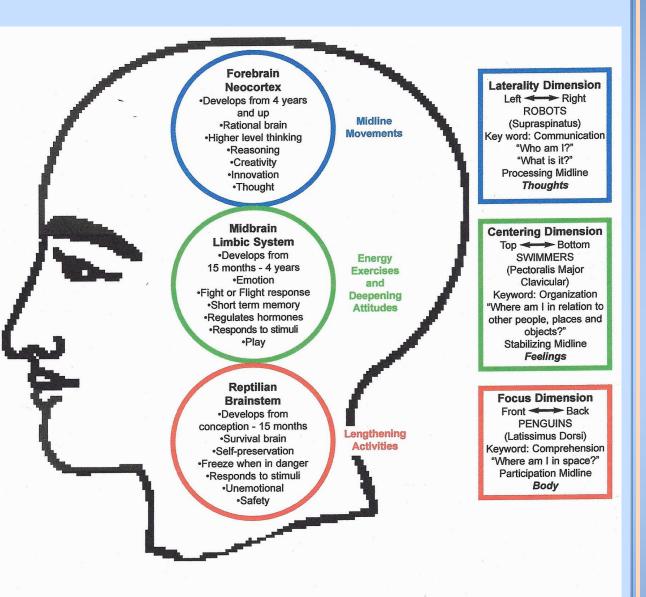
The Participation Midline

Comprehension Sensing The Back and Forth

We access sensation via the brainstem

# TO INTEGRATE THE FOCUS DIMENSION





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## Centering

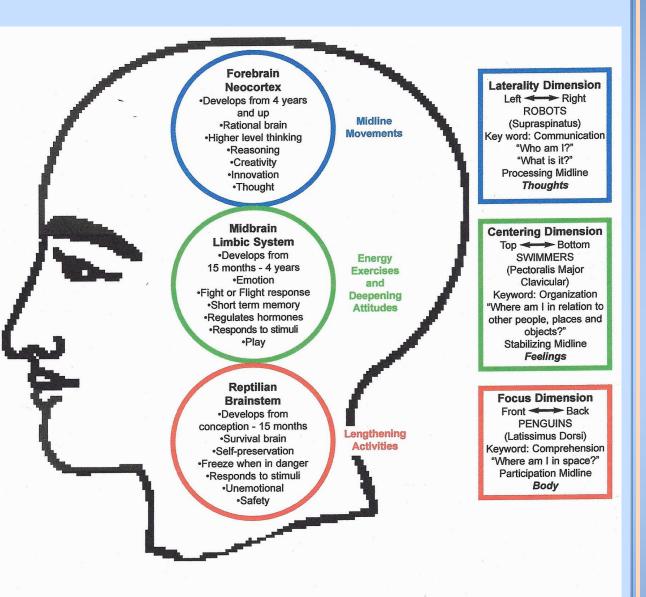
The Stabilization Midline

Organization Feeling The Up and Down

We access our feelings through the limbic midbrain

## TO INTEGRATE THE CENTERING DIMENSION





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## Laterality

The Processing Midline

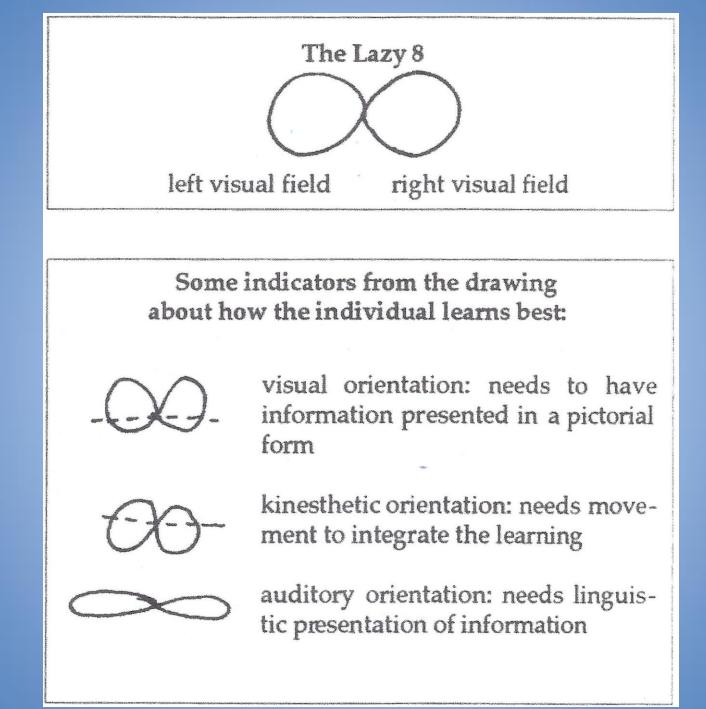
Communication Thinking The Side to Side

We access language through the cerebral hemispheres

### TO INTEGRATE THE LATERALITY DIMENSION



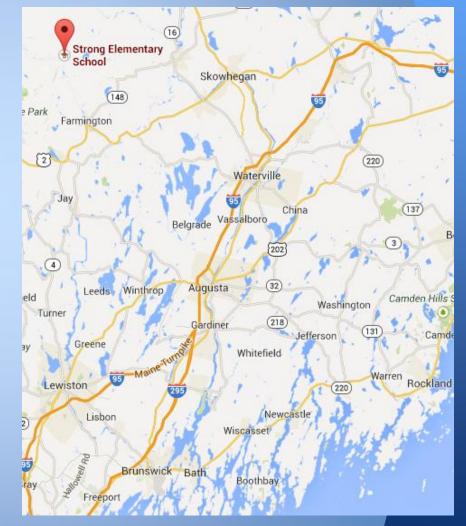


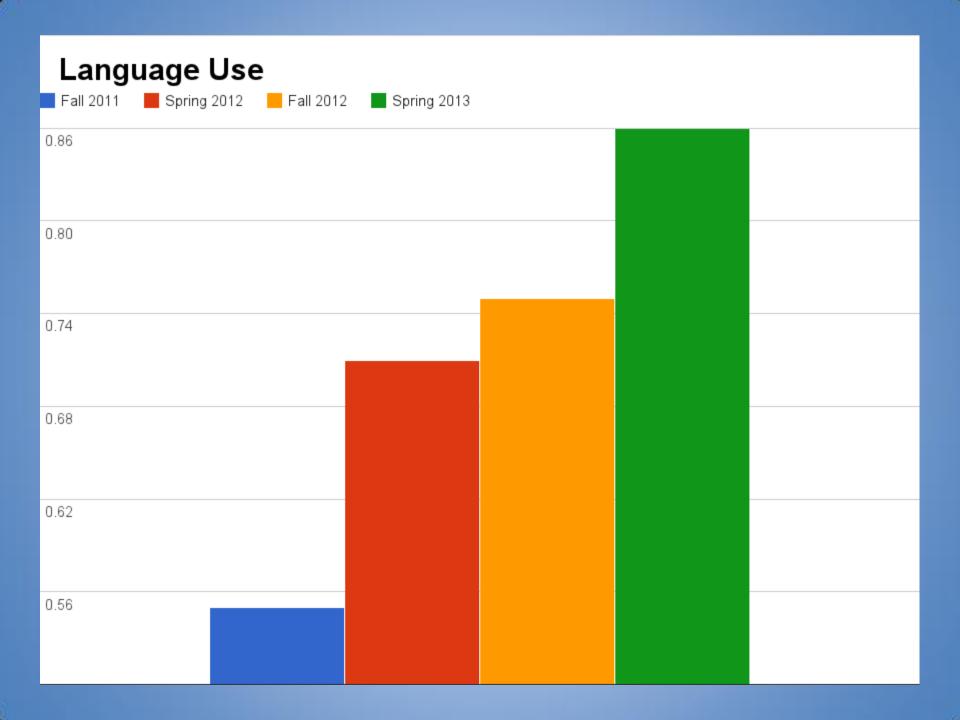


# What's Happening In Maine?

#### **Strong Elementary School - K-8** "Toothpick Capital of the World"

- Population: 1200
  School Size: 170
  63% Free/Reduced Breakfast/Lunch Plan
- 2005 National Blue Ribbon School
  2011 National Title 1 School





Reading Fall 2011 Spring 2012 Fall 2012 Spring 2013				
0.84				
0.80				
0.76				
0.72				
0.68				
0.64				

Math Fall 2011 Spring 2012 Fall 2012 Spring 2013					
0.94					
0.90					
0.86					
0.82					
0.78					
0.74					

## **Other Places in Maine**

Brain Gym is taught and used in

- Schools, Businesses, Adult Ed, Colleges, Senior Colleges, Hospitals, MEOTA, YMCA, Child Care, Muskie Institute (Child Welfare Institute), OT and Pediatric Clinics, and Retirement Homes
- From Fort Kent to Eliot, and Jackman to Calais

Brain Gym has been featured on television
Portland, Brunswick, and Fort Kent

## Next Steps

Implementation and how to use this information



## For yourself and others

For you:

- Practice PACE and keep a journal Notice
- Try other Brain Gym movements keep it simple

#### For a school:

- In-Service training for staff 2-5 hours.
- Have someone take the Brain Gym<sup>®</sup> 24 course.
- Use students as leaders as they learn.

CELEBRATE successes both small and large.

## Resources

- Brain Gym<sup>®</sup> International
  - Website: BrainGym.org
  - Store: BrainGym.com
- Beth Stoddard
  - Website: TrainTheBrain.biz
  - Email: Beth@TrainTheBrain.biz
- Felecia Pease
  - Email: LetItSnowME@yahoo.com

## **Recommended Reading**

- Brown, Kathy. Educate Your Brain: Use Mind-body Balance to Learn Faster, Work Smarter, and Move More Easily through Life. 2012.
- Dennison, Paul E., Ph.D., and Gail E. Dennison. *Brain Gym*<sup>®</sup>: *Teacher's Edition*. 1987.
- Hannaford, Carla, Ph.D. Smart Moves: Why Learning Is Not All in Your Head. 2005.
- Hornbeak, Denise C. The SuperConfitelligent Child: Loving to Learn Through Movement & Play. 2007.
- Madaule, Paul. When Listening Comes Alive: A Guide to Effective Learning and Communication. 1994.
- Ratey, John J., M.D., and Eric Hagerman. SPARK: The *Revolutionary New Science of Exercise and The Brain*. 2008.

## Thanks



## **Works Cited**

- Brain Gym<sup>®</sup> Journal No. 3 XVIII.Nov (2004): n. pag. Print.
   Downs, Raymond. "How Brain Gym Helped Me with ADHD." Brain Gym<sup>®</sup> Journal No.2 XX.Jul (2006): 8-9. Print.
- Trahan, Thaddeus J., Jr. "Expanding My Teaching from Texas to the World." *Brain Gym*<sup>®</sup> *Journal* No.3 XXIII.Dec. (2009): 8-9,11. Print.
- Wennekes, Renate, and Susanne Degendorfer. "The Lay 8: A Key to Cerebral Function." *Brain Gym*<sup>®</sup> *Journal* No.3 X.Dec. (1996): 1,14-15. Print.