

How to stop doing dumb stuff!

Teacher Guide





THIS IS A PART SAMPLE OF A UNIT TEACHER GUIDE. IF YOU CONTACT US AND ARE INTERESTED IN PURCHASING WE WILL HAPPILY PREVIEW THE ENTIRE WORKBOOK WITH YOU!

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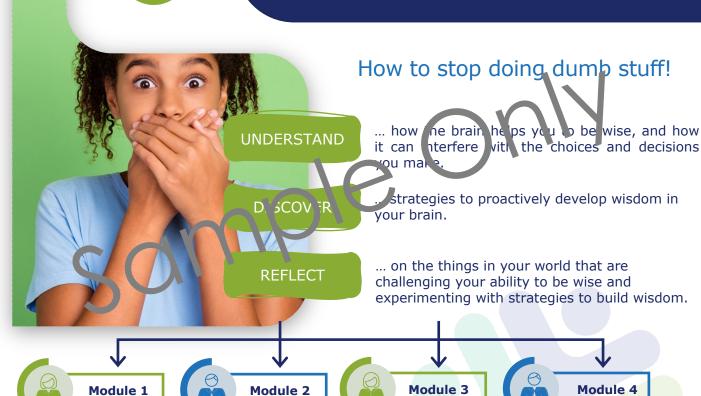
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BetterMe

Wise ME



Developing Wisdom

Kids can be wise too!

when we talk about 'wisdom'

DISCOVER

RELFECT

... that kids can be wise too, plus some strategies to help you be wise

... on wise and unwise choices you have mad in the past and what you might do in the future

Brain Wise

The neuroscience of wisdom

... how your brain helps you to be wise, and how it gets in the way

... that knowing how the brain is involved, he ps you be wise

... take a diagnostic to measure your current 'wisdom'

Wisdom whispering Making wise choices

... that wise choices prevent unwanted consequences, and that limbic lag is the key

... that Wisdom
Whisperers con
change the
world, and
other's worlds
for the better

... on ways to Wisdom Whisper for themselves, and for others in the school community The wise 'influencer' Wisdom on the web

... the difference between fact, fiction and feeling on the veb

... i pw much non- ruth is out there, and how to become digital and media literate

... on personal experiences on social media and think about strategies for future

Memes: Wise or Wacky / Choice = Consequence





Teacher preparation ...

... the content and the flew. Iow many lessons do you have and how long? How responsive, per and trusting is your class? What him is of activities will best get them talking, thinking and interacting? What other prorities in terms of 'reading', writing' and 'thinking' are priority for your chool that should be considered and/or integrated when facilitating this program?

... what do you want for the students from each lesson, module and unit? Is there anything specific that aligns with your school's focus that you can weave in? What does your school's Program Manager want as an outcome?

EXPLORE

... creative ways to deliver the content and build trust with your class. Think about your personal experience with the topic? Do you have some stories to tell that will help the students see you as 'human'?

Think also about groupings, discussion groups etc. and how you will proactively put the right students together or mix things up over the course of the unit.

Take the time to read some of the extension articles and other resources on the BETTER ME TEACHER SUPPORT PORTAL. This will help you to show up like an 'expert' in the room and contribute to the discussions. It will also help you to ask powerful, curious 'thinking' questions of the students.

Make sure you are confident in explaining and linking the unit content to the AARMA Framework!

See the BETTER
ME TEACHER
SUPLOR POR AL
for glidence on
lie NARI
frim wor:

The Human
AARMA
protecting me
and others from
the' tyranny of
human'!



self-AWARE

self-ACCEPTING

self-REGULATED

self-MOTIVATED

self-ACCOUNTABLE





About this guide ...

It is a gui le only.

There are no specific lesson timings so you can choose how you wish to use the material and facilitate the learning for your students.

Slides
Tale vant to
he not s

A tivities or in ormation in student workbook

Tips and suggestions

WORKBOOK



Focus and questions

THE RIDDLE

Quick debrief

What did your brain do?

How did it get tricked (if it was)?

Key message

Your brain has to decide whether to operate with SPEED or with ACCURACY. Speed is fast but more error prone, careful decisions and thought take longer – and humans are impatient.

(The purpose of the Riddle at the start of the lesson/module is to stimulate engagement through novel y and i in and help settle and focus the students)

Teacher Tips

Move quickly through these first few slides to keep momentum.

> Questions you can ask to get the students thinking

ctivity pecific content or messages

Additional notes or information for teachers

All modules are ctructured as per the frame york not d here and are eclouicoded throughout this guidance document. Note that if your school subscribes to the *Explicit Instruction Teaching Model* – you can see that this structure aligns well.

Module structure

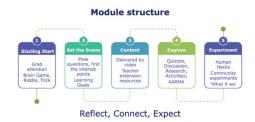


Reflect, Connect, Expect



Module 1

Developing Wisdom (ids can be wise too!

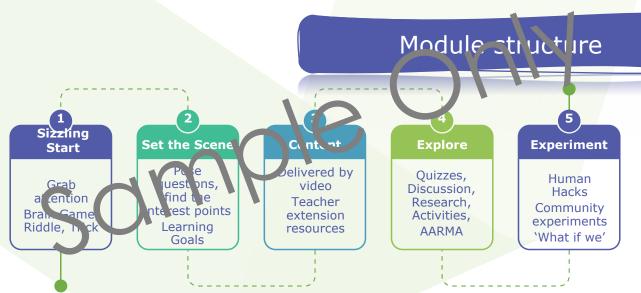


Sizzling Start

Entering the learning space

Think about how you will enter the students into the loom each lesson in new and novel ways. You could:

- Have each student take a **wisdom so k e** (or folded up paper) from a box, each with a Wise Quote on it and stare. Isk a rew students to share (possible speed date activity) and see if the classidentifies the quotes as pieces of 'wisdom'.
- If you are flanning to put students into **groups** you could give them a name tag as they enter with a coloured sticker on it and use the colours later to group. O have the n select colour disks or lollies!
- You can have students line up in birthday date, then count off into groups and have those groups for the entire unit or module. A great way to build crossfriendship group trust!
- Plan your 'content', 'cognitive', and 'connection' questions for the exercises
 so that you really get students 'thinking and reflecting' in ways that are useful for
 them as developing humans. We have provided plenty of ideas for you to use
 throughout this document. More information about these kinds of questions can
 be found in the Teacher Guidance section of the BETTER ME TEACHER
 SUPPORT PORTAL.
- Consider you or a student setting an alarm 10 minutes before the end of the lesson so that you can finish powerfully and purposefully.
- Be creative. Change it up! Remember, the brain pays attention to novelty!



Reflect, Connect, Expect



Sizzling Start





Focus and ques' ons

INTRODUCTION TO THE BETTEF M.

BETTER IN Fix a project to help you work to ward cre til g a BETTER YOU over the cours of your schooling.

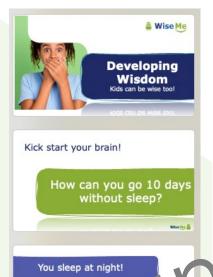
(If this is the first time students have been exposed to the BETTER ME Project, you might like to play the introduction video – or play it again as a reminder from a previous year.

It is important that students understand this is about developing their Human AARMA – to protect them and others in this crazy, challenging world because whilst humans are amazing, they can be quite hopeless too!)

Tea :her Tips

Key focus of the program:

Understanding how the human brain works and arming you with strategies to help you live a better life. When you are challenged you can put on your HUMAN AARMA!



Focus and questions

THE RIDDLE

(The purpose of the RIDDLE at the start of the lesson is to stimulate engagement through novelty and fun and help settle and focus the students)

Quick debrief

What did your brain do?

How dra raget tricked (if it was)?

Key n assage

Your brain has to decide whether to operate with SPEED or with ACCURACY. Speed is fast but more error prone, careful decisions and thought take longer – and humans are impatient. This will become evident as we start to look at how your brain helps or hinders you being wise!

Teacher Tips

Move quickly through these first few slides. Their purpose is to focul and lettle the students.

Module structure



Set the Scene

Reflect, Connect, Expect

Wisdom?

Focus and questions

WISDOM

(Find out what students all hady know and/or think about the conception wisdom. Set them thinking and talking and ence, engages)

SON

Example questions to ask

What is wisdom?

How do you get it?

When have you made a wise decision or choice? What was the outcome?

When have you done something you would consider unwise? What was the outcome?

Have you ever repeated unwise decisions or choices?

Teacher Tips

Students will most likely start at the 'older people are wise' place. Let them go there then ask some great 'thinking' questions (metacognitive questions with no counter or judgement

For example:
What makes you
think that? Tell
me more about
your thinking on
that.
So what I'm
hearing is that
you think that ...



Focus and questions

LEARNING OUTCOMES (on slide)

(Explain what students will learn in this module.)

Teacher Tips

Focus and questions

STORY TIME

We all do dui ib stuff ie., make unwise choices or decisions. I remember when I ... (share a to y and encourage students to thate sto les).

Did you learn from those experiences and make different choices? What I learned was ...?

Key message (on slide)

If you have ever made an UNWISE choice or decision and then NOT repeated it, then you have developed wisdom!

Teac er Tips

Great trust building time – get the students talking and sharing...

Wisdom is essentially learning from your mistakes!



Module structure



Reflect, Connect, Expect

Content

Focus and questins

VIDEO - THE WISDOM (F SOCR AT :S

(After the video audents can fill in the three three litter test items in their world ook.)

WORKBOOK

NO.E: The script of the video is represented in the student workbooks as a newspaper article. In the event of no access to video, the students can read the article and use it to answer the QUIZ.

Tea her Tips

We want students to think about how they engage with information, how they accept it as truth without checking, how they inadvertently hurt others by not thinking about the consequences.



Focus and questions

DEBRIEF THE VIDEO using the questions on the slide, AND/OR in groups with the Discussion Card activity.

Discussion questions (on slide):

How was Socrates wise?

What did he DO to be wise?
How can you be wise like Socrates?

Discussion questions (or slide):

How would Soc ate engage with today's escial in edia?

Eathat different to how you engage with social media?

How would you define 'wisdom' based on this story?

Connect to AARMA (on slide):

How was Socrates using ARRMA?

(see next page for guidance on this question)



A SOCIETIES UNIT OF NE AARMA? ANAI ANAI

Teacher Tips

KEY CONCEPTS

Socrates focused on what was USEFUL not what was just INTERESTING and gossipy.

He stopped to hink all out the consequences.

He aimed to work with the TRUTH.

On the next page you will find some more examples of powerful questions to ask and a group discussion extension exercise. Reflect, Connect, Expect

Content



How Socrates was using his Human AARMA

Here's how the AARMA framework could relate to the Story of Socrates:

Awareness: Socrates shows awareness by recognising the potential impact of gossip. He doesn't accept the information at face value; instead, he is aware that unverified information could be harmful or misleading.

Acceptance: The concept of acceptance here is tied to accepting the responsibility of verifying information before spreading it. Socrates doesn't immediately accept what's being told to him without scrutiny. He also implicitly encourages the man to accept the possibility that spreading unverified information could be unethical. He also 'accepts' that for humans, gossip is interesting and fun to pass along, even if not a wise idea!

Regulation: Socrates demonstrates self-regulation by controlling the conversation and guiding it through a process that filters out unworthy information. This shows discipline in thought and speech, which is a form of emotional and mental regulation.

Motivation: The motivation for Socrates might be to maintain a truth ful, positive, and useful way of showing up in the world. By refusing to engage in gossip, he promotes a culture of constructive and ethical communication. This could also serve as a lesson for his students to be notivated to seek the truth and think critically.

Accountability: Finally, Socrates a proach to the conversation holds both himself and the man accountable for the information they choose to spread. Socrates makes it dea that it something is not true, good, or useful, it should not be shared, thereby emphasizing the importance of personal accountability in communication.



Reflect, Connect, Expect

Content

The Wisdom of Socrates
Group Discussion Activity



On the following pages are a series of Content, Cognitive and Connection questions you can use if you wish. On the BETTER ME TEACHER SUPPORT PORTAL you will find a set of Group Discussion cards you can print and use if you wish to separate the class into groups for some deeper reflection. Each card has one Content, one Cognitive and one Connection question with some thought provokers.

CONTENT Questions and Suggested Responses

What are the three filters that Socrates mentions in the story?

Expected Answer: The three filters are Truth, Goodness, and Usefulness.

Message: Highlight the wisdom of evaluating information critically before sharing, using these three criteria.

What was the acquaintance's reaction after each filter was applied?

Expected Answer: After the first filter, the man admitted he didn't know if the gossip was true. After the second, he acknowledged it was not something good. And after the third, he conceded that the information was not useful to Socrates.

Message: Emphasise the process of thinking about four own thinking and behaviour before acting, and the value of critically scrutinising information before you act on it.

Summarise why Socrates did no. want to hear the information the acquaintance had to offer

Exp. sted Arswer: Socrates did not want to hear the information because it railed all three filters—it was neither confirmed as true, nor good, nor useful.

Message: Underline the moral of the story that unnecessary and unverified information should not be spread.

Reflect, Connect, Expect

The Wisdom of Socrates
Group Discussion Activity

COGNITATE Questions and Suggested Responses

Do you agree with the principles behind the Three Filter Test? Why or why not?

Expected Answer: Students should provide their own opinion, supported by reasoning, on the value of the Three Filter Test.

Message: Encourage students to develop and express their own viewpoints on ethical communication.

Can you think of a situation in your own life where the Three Filter Test could be applied?

Expected Answer: Students should reflect on personal experiences where they could apply the filters before sharing information.

Message: Foster a personal connection with the lesson, promoting ethical behaviour in daily life.

How does the Three Filter Test apply to our modern use of social media?

Expected Answer: Students might discuss the importance of act-checking, the spread of misinformation, and the impact of sharing on social media.

Message: Highlight the relevance of Socratic wisdom in the digital age and responsible use of social platforms.

Reflect, Connect, Expect

The Wisdom of Socrates
Group Discussion Activity

CONNECTION Quest on 5 and Suggested Responses

Reflect on a time when you passed along information without using these filters. How do you think the outcome might have been different if you had used the Three Filter Test?

Expected Answer: Students should describe a past situation and how applying the filters could have changed their actions and the outcome.

Message: Promote self-awareness and the potential benefits of reflective thinking in communication.

Why do you think the story of Socrates and the Three Filter Test has continued to be shared over time? What makes it resonate with people?

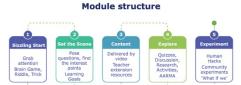
Expected Answer: Expect reflections on the timeless nature of wisdom, the universal relevance of ethical communication, or the enduring respect for Socrates as a philosopher.

Message: Encourage appreciation for philosophical lessons that remain applicable across time.

What does this story teach you about the importance of critical thinking when it comes to communication?

Expected Answer: Students should connect the story to the broader concept of critical thin king, especially in discerning what information to share

Mes age: Underscore the importance of critical thinking in evaluating and sharing information responsibly.





SOM



Focus and questions

INTRODUCE DEFINITION OF WISDOM

(Introduce the efinition of wisdom that we will use for this unit. Students can complete in their workbook.)

WORKBOOK

Windom = Knowledge plus Experience plus Good Judgement

Slide: Quote to confirm/reinforce key message ...

"A famously wise old man in a village was once asked how he came by his wisdom. "I got it from my good judgement," he answered.

And where did his good judgement come from? "I got it from my bad judgement."

Discussion question

What does that quote suggest?

That wisdom is earned through the consequences of your 'unwise' decisions or choices. Wisdom is **learned**, and **earned**, not given.

(Link to the AARMA Model) You can become wise by being self-awa..., self regulated, self-motivated and self-accountable for your choice, and act on.

Tea her Tips

Stude its record definition in student workbook.

There are many other definitions of wisdom. It might be fun to do a quick GOOGLE GAME and find five definitions and then combine what they like into one definition and share with the other groups.

What themes emerge?



Module structure

Content





Focus and que tions

VIDEO - CHILD DICOMES WIS

THE VIDEO IS IN TWO PARTS - Press pause where indicated to allow students to ro less what has been said so far.

(As you listen to the video yourself, what connections are you making? What is new for you? What did YOU like about the information - share that with students.)

Tea her Tips

The News article 'Child becomes wise' is the script from this video.



EXPLI ATION

Focus and questions

QUIZ

WORKBOOK

In pairs or small groups, complete the video Quiz in the Student workbook or on your QUIZ platform.

(Connect to the AARMA Framework, particularly AWARENESS and REGULATION (self-control))

(The purpose of the Quiz after each video is to simply ensure that students picked up on the main ideas and content. Fet free though to take discussi ins deep er around any concepts or are, s of interest to the stude (ts)

Discussion questions (on slide)

MENTE: Explanation not Excuse!

This is something you can keep linking back to in this module to help students make deeper connections around the content)

Teacher Tips

QUIZ Answers

Q1: A

Q2: C Q3: B

Q4: B

05: A Q6: C

Q7: D



Exploration



Following are a series of activities to support students to explore the include concepts and key messages.



Focus and questions

Teacher Tips

ACTIVITY: WISE OR WACKY

Diagnostic style activity.

WORKBOOK

ACTIVITY: APPLYING KEG

(After students complete the WISE or WACKY questionnaire, help them explore and apply the KEG concept.

Review the worked examples on the slides, then ask students to either individually or in groups share how the KEG strategy would apply to two of the areas from the Wise or Wacky questionnaire.)

MEME: Normal human behaviour – just not useful!

Doing the 'wacky things are 'normal' for humans and particularly for teenagers they just aren't wise or useful!

Examples are fleshed out in the student workbook so students can 'see' what applying the KEG process looks like.

This could be done in plenary then have students write what they think or done in small groups or individually then share and compare.



NORMAL HUMAN BEHAVIOUR

Module structure Sizziling Start Grab Grab Strain Garine, Riddle, Trick Set the Scone Pose Questions, find the interest points Learning Goals Learning Goal

Exploration





Wisdom Failure

Wisdom Failure!



WORKBOOK

Foc is in questions

CTI ITY: W SDOM FAILURE

TN V O !KBOOK

Read the article 'Wisdom Failure' in the workbook.

Key message

Big humans can be unwise too!

(Discuss with the students how Steve Smith and David Warner DID NOT use KEG in their decision making.)

Sample questions (on slides)

What did Smith and Warner KNOW that they did not take into account?

What EXPERIENCE should have guided them?

Where and why did their GOOD JUDGEMENT fail them?

What connections are you making about what happened and your own life experience?

If Steve Smith and David Warner were faced with a similar circumstance in the puture, what would their Ki Ghow be?

1EM: Shorces have consequences

Wise people think carefully about the choices they make based on short and long term consequences.

SEE NEXT PAGE FOR REFLECTION GUIDANCE.

Teacher Tips

SEE NEXT PAGE FOR guidance on responses to the discussion questions.

There is a blank page in the Student Workbook if you want students to make notes.



About



Exploration

Reflect, Connect, Expect

Wisdom Failure – debrief juidanc

The incident highlights a failure in a polying the KEG' model of wise decision-making:

- **1.Knowledge:** Strick and Warrier were well aware of the rules and the ethos of the rule. Their dicision to tamper with the ball was a blatant disregard of this knowledge.
- **2.Exp prience:** As seasoned international players, they had faced numerous high-pressure situations. This experience should have equipped them to make ethical decisions under pressure.
- **3.Good judgement:** The critical failure was in judgement. Despite their knowledge and experience, they chose a path that risked their careers and reputations. The underlying factors—whether peer pressure, a flawed team culture, or a win-at-all-costs mentality—demonstrate a significant lapse in judgement.

Conclusion

Smith and Warner's inability to stop and think through the consequences their choices would bring lead them to be 'unwise' and they had to be accountable for the longer term consequences of their decisions.

Reflection on Decision Making for Steve Smith and David Warner

If Steve Smith and David Warner were faced with a similar situation now, having experienced the repercussions of their past failure, their application of the KEG (Knowledge, Experience, Good judgement) model would likely be significantly different:

Knowledge:

Before: They knew he rules against ball tampering but chose to ignore them.

After. Post-scandal, their understanding of the rules is now coupled with a deep swareness of the consequences of breaking them. This includes not only the direct penalties but also the damage to their personal reputations, the trust of their fans, and the integrity of the sport.

Exploration

Reflect, Connect, Expect

Wisdom Failure - debrief (uidance)

Experience:

Before: Their experience in high-pre sure situations didn't translate into making ethical decisions

After: The experience of noing through the scandal, the public backlash, and the professional follout has given them a new perspective. They've felt first, and the consequences of unethical actions, both on a personal and professional level. This experience would now serve as a powerful reminder and deterrent against repeating such actions.

Good judgement:

Before: Their judgement was clouded, likely influenced by the desire to win at any cost.

After: Having been through the humbling process of public apology, bans, and the journey back to professional cricket, their capacity for good judgement in similar situations would likely be enhanced. They would be more likely to consider the ethical implications of their actions, understanding that the short-term gains of cheating do not outweigh the long-term consequences.

In essence, their KEG would now be informed by a hard-learned lesson. Their knowledge would be deepened by understanding the broader implications of their actions; their experience, enriched by personal growth and introspection; and their judgement, hopefully, refined to prioritice ethical decision-making and the spirit of the game over immediate success.



Experiment

Reflect, Connect, Expect

Every module finishes with Human Hacks. These are ideas for the students to experiment with. You and the students can choose one or both, or you can create your own Human Hack or 'experiment'.



Focus and questions

EXPERIMENT: PRESS PAUSE

Students to experiment with 'pressing pause' in moments where they could make unwise choices. They might like to try using the KEG approach in those moments.



EXPERIMENT: KEG IT

Students to think about WHERE and HOW they might use KEG over the next week or so. You could explain that a great way to increase the likelihood of using KEG is to visualise it happening and 'practice' how you are going to respond. What words will you use? What will you do.



Student workbooks nave a small area for reflective quest or air preparation.

Teacher Tips

Think of how you might remind students also i.e., in the daily notices.

This is a good time to share with other teachers of the year level some of the language and memes being taught so they can be repeated or referred to in other classes.

Module structure | Sizzling Start Grab attention Brain Game, Riddle, Trick | Seat the Scene Grab attention Brain Game, Riddle, Trick | Seat the Scene Grab attention Brain Game, Riddle, Trick | Seat the Scene Grab attention Brain Game, Riddle, Trick | Seat the Scene Grab attention Brain Game, Riddle, Trick | Seat the Scene Grab attention Brain Game, Riddle, Trick | Seat the Scene Grab attention Brain Game, Riddle, Trick | Seat the Scene Grab attention Brain Game, Riddle, Trick | Seat the Scene Grab attention Brain Game, Riddle, Trick | Seat the Scene Grab attention Brain Game, Riddle, Trick | Seat the Scene Grab attention Brain Game, Riddle, Trick | Seat the Scene Grab attention Brain Game, Riddle, Trick | Seat the Scene Grab attention Brain Game, Riddle, Trick | Seat the Scene Grab attention Brain Game, Riddle, Trick | Seat the Scene Grab attention Brain Game, Riddle, Trick | Seat the Scene Grab attention Brain Game, Riddle, Trick | Seat the Scene Grab attention Brain Game, Riddle, Trick | Seat the Scene Grab attention Brain Game, Riddle, Trick | Seat the Scene Grab attention Brain Game, Riddle, Trick | Seat the Scene Grab attention Brain Game, Riddle, Trick | Seat the Scene Grab attention Brain Game, Riddle, Trick | Seat the Scene Grab attention Brain Game, Riddle, Trick | Seat the Scene Grab attention Brain Game, Riddle, Trick | Seat the Scene Grab attention Brain Game, Riddle, Trick | Seat the Scene Grab attention Brain Game, Riddle, Trick | Seat the Scene Grab attention Brain Game, Riddle, Trick | Seat the Scene Grab attention Brain Game, Riddle, Trick | Seat the Scene Grab attention Brain Game, Riddle, Trick | Seat the Scene Grab attention Brain Game, Riddle, Trick | Seat the Scene Grab attention Brain Game, Riddle, Trick | Seat the Scene Grab attention Brain Game, Riddle, Riddle, Trick | Seat the Scene Grab attention Brain Game, Riddle, Ri

Reflect, Connect, Expect

Reflect Connect Expect

Finithing the module powerfully is critical to the success of the program. Help students to REFLECT on their learning and experience and CONNECT the dots between what they have learned and what is important for them in their lives, and on how they might be impacting others. Help them to articulate what they should EXPECT from themselves and from others.



Focus and questions

KEY MESSAGES FROM THE MODULE

share the key message with students and ask what others they would add. Help them make connections about their AHA moments from this module and what they should EXPECT from themselves and others going forward. How does this contribute to their journey to be a BETTER ME!

And finally, re-focusing students on the need to work on our Human. ARMA in particular our AWARFNLSS – ability to be in the present to veical apply KEG, and our self-REGUL TION or self-CONTROL, being a course eous enough to make the vish shoices and decisions.

EXIT SLIDES

Choose the slide you would like to use to wrap the module or use your own method for helping students to articulate their learning and next steps.

Teacher Tips

Sharing what you have learned will be powerful for the students and give them permission to do the same.

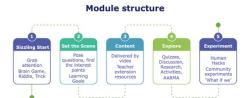
My notes...





Module 2

Brain-Wise The neuroscience of wisdom



Sizzling Start





Focus and que tions

THE RIDDLE (op side)

Quick det rief

What did your brain do?

How did it get tricked (if it was)? Did it become 'wiser' since the last time we asked a riddle?

Key message

Your brain has the capacity to learn quickly through failure. If you didn't get the riddle last time, your brain might have been ready to look at it differently this time. It might take a few times doing this for your brain to stop and think differently.

Remember, your brain will want to prioritise speed over accuracy.

Teacher Tips

Move quickly through these first few slides.

Focus on the idea that when your brain repeats things, even repeating 'unknown' things like riddles, it learns to think more usefully when next confronted with a similar situation.

Notes/Ideas







Set the Scene

Reflect, Connect, Expect





WISDOM - Topic reconnect

(Remember, the brain loves stories

How did your minting about wisdom' change ar evolve after Module 1?

What are you now interested in understanding or figuring out about the concept of Wisdom?

WISDOM – Stories to tell

What stories of success or failure do vou have to share since last lesson how did the experiments with the **Human Hacks go?**

LEARNING OBJECTIVES - on slide

(Outline the learning objectives for this module)

PLAY Wisdom Bingo

Students each have a BINGO CARD and they circulate the room looking for someone else with the same statements. They can only cross off one statement with one other person at a time, that is, if they meet with someone and have two or more statements in common, they can only cross off one and the move to the next person,

Debrief questions (on slide)

What did you notice about the ite on the BINGO CARD theme?

Learning through railtie and making mis ak s.

What do you think is the message coming through?

We have to make mistakes or 'fail' in order to truly learn.

What mistakes....?

(Encourage self-reflection and vulnerability and be vulnerable yourself with your own stories)

Tea :her Tips

Re-connect with the topic and highlight the progress in their thinking to date. How has YOUR thinking about kids being 'wise' shifted - as an adult?

Have a story of success or failure around the Human Hacks from Module 1 or 'wisdom' in general to share.

You can download the Wisdom Bingo cards and instructions from the BETTER ME Teacher Support Portal.





Module structure



Reflect, Connect, Expect

Content

Focus and questins

You can say ... In this module we will explore, from a neuroscience persective, why experiencing faiture is important for developing wisdom, and how to take control of your brain so you can become wise'.

VIDEO - BRAIN WISE

(NOTE: The script of the video is represented in the student workbooks as a newspaper article. In the event of no access to video, the students can read the article.)

Tea her Tips

As you listen to the video yourself, what connections are you making? What is new for you? What did YOU like about the information – share that with students.

Press Pause any time during the video to make sure students are getting the key messages.

WORKBOOK QUIZ WARE Self-AWARE R (self-ACCEPTING) R (self-ACCULATED) M self-MOTIVATED Self-ACCOUNTABLE

SON

Focus and questions

WORKBOOK

QUIZ

(In pairs or small groups, complete the

(Connect to the AARMA Framework, particularly AWARENESS and REGULATION (self-control) and ACCOUNTABLE for the consequences of the decisions and choices you make.

video Quiz in the Student)

(The purpose of the Oriz after pack video is to simply ensure that students have under tood and heard the main ideas and content. Fell free though to take discussions deeper around any concepts or areas of interest to the students. The subsequent activities are designed to go deeper)

Teacher Tips

This could be done in plenary then have students write what they think or done in small ircups or il dividually then share and tompare.

Answers

Q1: B

Q2: D

03: C

04: B

Q5: B

Q6: B

Q7: C

Q8: B

Q9: A

Q10: B



Reflect, Connect, Expect

CTI

Think

About

Content

Focus and questions

THE NEUROSCIENCE

(Take a moment to help students understand the neuro cience of wisdom in the Leain.

On the next page are some content, cognitive and connection questions you could pose to the group for a deeper discussion.)

OPTIONAL: Group discussion activity with cards

(If you would like to do this in groups, we have created a set of cards you can print and handout to each group each with 3 questions for the group to reflect on and answer.

Feel free to choose questions from the following pages of suggested questions and put on the slide instead of those that are there.

You will note that each card has one content, one cognitive and one connection questions. More information about these kinds of questions can be found on the BETTER ME TEACHER SUPPORT PORTAL)

Tea her Tips

After the card exercise do a 'speed date' exercise where group members share with other group members what they took away from the conversation that will encourage them to do things differently.

The group cards can be downloaded from the BETTER ME TEACHER SUPPORT PORTAL and further guidance is provided on the next few pages.



Reflect, Connect, Expect

Wisdom and the Brain More Discussion Quercions

Content Quistion's and Suggested Responses

What is perroplasticity and how does it relate to the development of wisdom in the brain?

Expected Answer: Neuroplasticity is the brain's ability to reorganise itself by forming new neural connections throughout life. It relates to wisdom by allowing the brain to adapt and learn from experiences.

Message: Emphasise the brain's adaptability and continuous growth potential.

According to the video/news article, what role do mistakes and failures play in the process of creating wisdom?

Expected Answer: Mistakes and failures are seen as opportunities for learning and growth. They allow the brain to create new pathways and learn to navigate life more skilfully.

Message: Reinforce the positive aspects of errors as learning experiences that contribute to personal development.

What does the video/news article suggest about the importance of listening to trustworthy sources for wisdom acquisition?

Expected Answer: Trustworthy so arces provide guidance, help avoid pitfalls, and contribute wisdom without the need to make ALL the mistakes you rself!

Messas :: High light the value of mentorship and credible information in personal development.

Reflect, Connect, Expect

Wisdom and the Brain More Discussion Quercions

Cognitive Questions and Suggested Responses

Do you agree hat long-term thinking is crucial for making wise decisions? Viny or why not?

Expected Answer: Answers will vary; look for reasoning that connects long-term consequences with the quality of current decisions.

Message: Encourage students to think critically about the impact of their decisions beyond the immediate moment.

How might the metaphor of a 'brain city' help us understand the way our brain adapts and learns? Can you think of any limitations to this metaphor?

Expected Answer: The metaphor helps visualise complex processes. Limitations may include oversimplifying brain functions or not accounting for biological elements.

Message: We use metaphors to aid understanding but also recognise their boundaries in accurately representing reality.

In what ways could the process of neuroplasticity influence the choices you make in your daily life?

Expected Answer: Knowledge of neuroplasticity might encourage making choices that challenge the brain, support learning, and avoid stagnation or developing non-useful habits.

Message P omete active engagement with learning opportunities and lonse our decision-making for personal growth.

Wisdom and the Brain
More Discussion Quertions

Connection Questions and Suggested Responses

Reflect on a post experience where you made a mistake. How did that experience contribute to your 'wise brain' according to the principles of neuroplasticity discussed in the video/news article?

Expected Answer: Look for recognition of learning from past errors, changes in approach, or the development of resilience.

Message: Foster a growth mindset where students see the value in reflection and learning from past actions.

Consider the concept of 'learning on the go'. How does this idea affect your approach to new challenges and the way you process information?

Expected Answer: Encourage students to think about adaptability, openness to new experiences, and active learning.

Message: Stress the importance of being receptive to learning at all times and using experiences as educational opportunities.

Think about a decision you'll need to make soon. How can you apply the principles of wisdom mentioned in the taxt to make a choice that will benefit your 'future self'?

Expected Answer: Answers should relate to considering long-term effects, aligning with values (vh at is important to you), and the potential impact on fu are c ro imstances.

Message Guide students towards introspection and forwardthinking in their decision-making processes.

Module structure Sizziling Start Grab attention Brain Garne, Riddle, Trick Riddle, Trick Solt the Scene Pope questions, find attention Brain Garne, Points Learning Goals Content Delivered by video the interest points Learning Goals Content Delivered by video the Chizzes, Popes Research, Activities, ARRMA Experiment Human Hacks Community Co

Content



Foy attention to infoobout... Frontal Lobu... Armydala Social Brain



VIDEO - WISDOM WOE

BEFORE YOUR STAFT THE VIDEO Fringe the students ...

to le in the lookout for three concepts about the brain and wisdom – **the Pre-frontal Cortex, the Amygdala and their Social Brain**. Write these up on the board or get them to write these down and be on the lookout.

You can say ... in the last video we looked at the science of wisdom in the brain. In this video we start to look at the things that can interfere with wise decision-making.

Tea her Tips

As you listen to the video yourself, what connections are you making?

What is new for you?

What did YOU like about the information – share that with students.



Focus and questions

DEBRIEF THE VIDEO

WORKBOOK

In the workbook, students can identify which part of the brain can interfere with good decision-making and how it does that. They can fill in the gaps in the workbook.

Pre-frontal cortex Amygdala Social brain



The answers reveal themselves on the slides.



Module structure Sizziling Start Grab attention Brain Game, Ridden, mice Midden, Mice Golden Gallen Golden Graben Graben

Content



Focus and questions

Activity: GOOGLE GAME 5

(A continua ion of the Wisdom Woods video)

Individual of group research ...

ab ut the chree concepts about the brain and windom – the Pre-frontal Cortex, the Amygdala and their Social Brain.



MEME: EXPLANATION NOT EXCUSE

Remember that what we are exploring and learning helps us to 'explain' certain behaviour, but it can't be used as an 'excuse' for poor behaviour or unwise choices.

Tea her Tips

Research topics are in the workbook. Students could also define their own research topics of interest.

Expected responses from this activity with key messages to discuss are on the following pages.





Question 1: Role of the A nygdala in decision naking

Expected responses/key messages

Expected responses from student research:

- **1.Role of the Amygdala:** Students might explain that the amygdalar is a part of the brain involved in emotional processing, especially fear that pleasure. It's crucial for survival instincts and quick emotional reactions.
- **2.Amygdala in Decision of king:** The amygdala plays a role in decision-making by influencing emotional responses. So denote out to scuss how this might affect their choices, especially when they are under stress or feeling strong amotions.
- **3.Usefum** ss of the Amygdala: Answers could include its role in quickly identifying threats (fight, flight, freeze or appease response) and helping in making rapid decisions in dangerous situations.
- **4.Interference by the Amygdala:** Students might explain how the amygdala can interfere in situations where a calm, rational decision is needed. For example, when the amygdala overreacts to a non-threatening situation, it can lead to impulsive, fear-based decisions.
- **5.Balancing Emotional and Rational Thinking:** Discussing how to balance the instinctive responses from the amygdala with more reasoned thinking from other parts of the brain, like the prefrontal cortex.
- *Note that amygdala is singular and plural there are two in the brain one in each brain hemisphere but also referred to as a paired structure called the Amygdala.

Key Messages

- **1. Understanding the Amygdala:** Emphasise the amygdala's role in emotional processing and its evolutionary purpose in survival situations.
- **2. Teenage Brain Development:** Highlight that in adolescents, the prefrontal cortex, responsible for rational thinking and decision-making, is still developing. This can lead to a greater influence of the amygdala in their decision-making process but now is a great time to develop its power for the future.
- **3. Fight or Flight Response:** Discuss how the amygdala is responsible for the light, flight, freeze, appease response and how this can be both beneficial in actual dangerous littrations and a hindrance in everyday decision-making.
- **4. Emotional Responses and Decision-Making:** Explore he w emotional responses, governed by the amygdala, can sometimes lead to impulsive or irrational decision, especially under stress.
- **5. Teaching Emotional Regulation:** Focus in strateo as to regulate emotions, such as mindfulness, deep breathing, or pausing before releaning, to mitigate the amygdala's influence.
- **6. Real-life Scenarios:** Use real-life scenar ps or case studies to illustrate how the amygdala's response might impact decision-making in both positive and negative ways.
- 7. Critical Thir and and Emctional Intelligence: Encourage the development of both critical thinking and emptional intelligence to balance the amygdala's instinctive responses.
- **8. Impact o St. 25 and Anxiety:** Discuss how stress and anxiety can amplify the amygdala's influence and strategies to manage these feelings.
- **9. Encourage Self-awareness:** Help students become more aware of their emotional responses and how these might influence their decisions.
- **10.Creating a Safe Learning Environment:** Ensure that the classroom is a safe space for discussing emotions and decision-making without judgement, fostering openness and trust.

Question 2: The Alolest ent Brain

Expected responses and key messa jes

Expected responses from student research:

Rapid Brain Develorment: The acolescent brain is still developing, with significant changes occurring in both structure and function. This period is crucial for learning and cognitive growth. Adolescence is also one of the few times in our human growth and maturation where the brain can learn quickly and deer ly and make new connections really fast!

Prefrontal Cortex Maturation: The prefrontal cortex, responsible for decision-making, planning, and impulse control, is one of the last brain areas to fully develop. This explains why teenagers might struggle with self-control and long-term planning.

Increased Risk-Taking: Adolescents are more likely to engage in risk-taking behaviours. This is partly due to an underdeveloped prefrontal cortex and a heightened response to rewards in the brain.

Emotional Intensity: Teenagers often experience emotions more intensely due to ongoing brain development. This can lead to mood swings and emotional reactions that seem disproportionate to adults.

Importance of Sleep: The adolescent brain requires a lot of sleep for optimal functioning and development. Sleep patterns often shift during adolescence, leading to later bedtimes and wake times.

Social Development: The adolescent brain is highly attuned to social interactions and peer influence. This period is critical for developing social skills and understanding complex social dynamics

Learning and Memory: Adolescence is a prime time for learning. The brain's plasticity during this period makes it an excellent time for acquiring new skills and information.

Stress Vulnerability: Adolescents are particularly sensitive to stress, which can impact brain development and mental health. Understanding how to manage stress is clucial during this time.

Imp. ct of Tech 10 ogy: The adolescent brain is highly susceptible to the effects of technology, including social media. Balancing technology use with offline activities is important for healthy brain development.

Nutrition and Exercise: Good nutrition and regular exercise are vital for a healthy developing brain. They can improve cognitive function, mood, and overall physical health.

Question 3: The Social Brain

Expected responses and key messa jes

Expected responses from student research:

Importance of a Social Prairy Students might discover that the social brair is important for forming relationships, understanding others, and functioning in a lociety. Without it, communication and empathy would be severely imited.

Consequences of Not Having a Social Brain: They could discuss that without a social brain, individuals would struggle with social interactions, leading to isolation, misunderstanding, and difficulty in forming meaningful and respectful relationships.

Peer Influence: Students might acknowledge that their social brain makes them more susceptible to peer pressure and the desire to fit in, sometimes leading to unwise choices like engaging in risky behaviours.

Group Conformity: They could recognise that the need for social acceptance can lead to conforming with group norms even when they conflict with personal values or common sense.

Prioritising Peer Relationships: Responses might include acknowledging the tendency to prioritise friendships over other important aspects of life, such as family or academic responsibilities.

Impulsive Decisions for Social Rewards: Students might admit to making impulsive decisions for immediate social rewards, overlooking ongterm consequences.

Emotional Influence of Peers: They could discuss how Leing influence by peers' emotions and behaviours can sometimes lead to Link ise actions.

Rebellion and Authority Challenges: Posponses might include understanding the natural (but not use ul) questioning of authority figures due to the developing social train, which can sometimes manifest in unwise behaviour.

Negative A spects of Social Media: Students might recognise the influence of social media on their decision-making and the potential for unwise choices related to privacy, self-image, and time management.

Balancing Social Brain Influences: They could express the need to balance the influences of the social brain with individual values and long-term thinking.

Module structure



Reflect, Connect, Expect

Content

Focus and questins

Activity: HOW WISE ARE YOU?

Complete the Wisdom Diagnostic in the student work book.

WORKBOOK



After completing the diagnostic, students can calculate their 'score'. It is important to remember that you are a 'masterpiece in the making' and this activity is great to see how you are going, not necessarily to compare with others (though you will naturally do that!!).

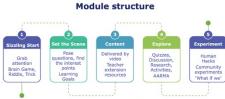
Ask students to think about how others would answer the questions about them. Would that be different to their initial answers.

(If you'd like students to complete the diagnostic a second time, or have someone complete the diagnostic on their behalf, you can download and print a copy from the BETTER ME TEACHER SUPPORT PORTAL.)

Tea her Tips

You can ask students to have someone else complete the diagnostic about the student. This could be done by someone who knows them well to make the point that what we think about ourselves is not necessarily what others see and experience.





Reflect, Connect, Expect

Exploration

Following are a series of activities to support students to explore the module concepts and key messages.

The Wise Crusade

Fr cus and questions

Teacher Tips

NCTIVITY: THE WISE CRUSADE

Students watch an excerpt from Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade and unpack the Wise and Unwise decisions made by the characters . Links are made to the KEG Framework.

We have provided a 5 minute version. There are shorter versions on the web if you search.











Focus and quest ons

Teacher Tips

WISE CRUSA DE GRO JP DISCUSSION

Piccu sion la ds

Disc iss an questions for the group.

Taking time to check out some of the Readings and Articles on the BETTER ME TEACHER SUPPORT PORTAL will help you to contribute as an 'expert' to the discussion. Set up for the activity and guidance on responses is on the next few pages.

Reflect, Connect, Expect

Exploration

Indiana Jones and the Wise Crusal'e

SFT UP SYNOP SIN TO READ TO STUDENTS

In the big final scene of the movie "Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade," Indiana Jones, along with the bad guys Elsa and Walter, finally find themselves in a cave looking for the Holy Grail. This Grail is a special cup that, according to stories, was used by Jesus at his last meal. It's said to have magic powers that can give someone forever youth, happiness, and lots of good stuff. The person who gets this super important cup will be really powerful, and the bad guys, the Nazis, want it for evil reasons.

In the cave, there's an old Knight who's been guarding the Grail. He's standing in front of a big shelf with lots of different cups - some are really fancy, and others are simple. One of these cups is the real Holy Grail. The Knight warns them, saying 'if you pick the right cup, you'll live, but if you pick the wrong one, you'll die'.

The bad guys are the first to choose. Elsa, with stars in her eyes, picks a really fancy cup and gives it to Walter. He thinks it's definitely the cup of a king, drinks water from it, and hopes for eternal life. But suddenly, he starts shaking and coughing, and instead of becoming young, he ages super fast and turns to dust. The Knight says, "He chose poorly."

Then it's Indy's turn. He thinks hard, knowing that the cur should be simple, like one a carpenter would use. He ignores the fancy curs and picks a plain one from the back. To see if it's the right one, he drinks water from it, and nothing bad happens.

The Knight tells Indy, "You have chosen wisely."

Exploration

Indiana Jones and the Wise Crusal'e

STUDENT OUES TI MAS AND REPSONSES

Who chose poorly?

Elsa and Valter Both chose poorly. Elsa, driven by her greed and ambition, selects a fancy, gem-encrusted cup she believes to be the Grail. Walter, influenced by his desire for power and perhaps a degree of naivety or ignorance, hastily drinks from the cup Elsa hands him.

What decision-making process (and brain functionality) drove them to make this decision?

Their decisions were likely driven by the emotional and reward centres of the brain, particularly the amygdala (associated with emotional responses) and the nucleus accumbens (involved in the processing of rewards and pleasures). Their choices were impulsive, influenced by surface-level appeal (the shiny, ornate cup) rather than rational analysis or deeper understanding. They didn't think it through but rather chose based on emotion.

Who chose wisely?

Indiana Jones (Indy): He chooses wisely by selecting a simple, unadorned cup, which turns out to be the true Grail.

What decision-making process (and brain functionality) drove them to make this decision?

Indy's decision was likely driven by the premontal cortex, the part of the brain responsible for complex cognitive behaviour, personality expression, decision making, and moderating cocal behaviour. This indicates a more rational, analytical approach to decision-making. He remembers the nature of Jesus as a carpenter and reasons that a simple cup would be more fitting for his character showing a deeper understanding and critical thinking.

Continue over ...

Reflect, Connect, Expect

Exploration

Indiana Jones and the

Wise Crusal'e

STUDENT QUESTIONS AND LEPSON SES

5. How did Indy use the KEG Fram work to make the wise choice that he did?

Indiana Jones' decision-making in cho sil q the Holy Grail can be broken down according to the KEG model as roll ws:

Knd vledg :

Indy possessed a vast amount of historical knowledge, not only as an archaeologist but also from his father, who was deeply involved in the study of the Grail lore. This knowledge base likely included understanding the historical context of the Grail, the time period in which it was used, and the socio-economic status of Jesus and his followers. He used this knowledge to deduce that the true Grail would not be a cup that would stand out with opulence.

Experience and Empathy:

Experience: Indy's extensive field experience as an archaeologist had taught him to look beyond the obvious and to question surface appearances. This experience with ancient artifacts gave him the insight to suspect that the true Grail would be more understated.

Empathy: By empathising with the historical figure of Jesus, Indy was able to understand that the cup of a carpenter would likely be simple and unadorned. His ability to empathise with the historical context allowed him to see beyond the glittering false choices.

Good judgement:

Indy's good judgement came into play when he considered an possible op ions and remembered the knight's warning to "choose wisely." Inis was a case for him to think critically and not just impulsively grab the most attractive cup. His good judgement was also reflected in his ability to resist the tempration that easing ed the other characters; he was not swayed by the grandeur or the stential for personal gain. In essence, Indy's choice was a culmination of his accumulated knowledge, his experiential learning, his empathetic connection to the past, and his ability to use good judgement when it mattered most. They element to the KEG model interacted seamlessly to guide him to the wise decision of cloosing the plain, unassuming cup as the true Holy Grail.

IN CONCLUSION

In conclusion, Elsa and Walter's decisions were driven by emotional and impulsive reactions, focusing on immediate reward and appearance. In contrast, Indy's choice was more thoughtful and analytical, considering historical context and rational deduction. This scene vividly demonstrates how different decision-making processes can lead to vastly different outcomes.

Reflect, Connect, Expect

Experiment

Every module finishes with Human Hacks. These are ideas for the students to experiment with. You and the students can choose one or both, or you can create your own Human Hack or 'experiment'.



Focus and questions

WORKBOOK

EXPERIMENT: EXPLAIN DON'T EXCUSE

(Students to experiment with the EXPLANATION NOT EXCUSE meme. It is important that other teachers in the school are aware as if students find themselves in disciplinary situation, they should be encouraged to talk through the brain explanation then understand that their choices have consequences. Perhaps they could be give the

(Student workbooks have a small area for reflective questions in preparation.)

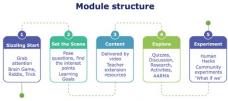
opportunity in appropriate circumstances

to 'make up for their mistake')

sample

Teacher Tips

This is a good time to share with other teachers of the year level some of the language and memes being taught so they can be repeated or referred to in other classes.



Reflect, Connect, Expect

Reflect Connect Expect

Finithing the module powerfully is critical to the success of the program. Help students to REFLECT on their learning and experience and CONNECT the dots between what they have learned and what is important for them in their lives, and on how they might be impacting others. Help them to articulate what they should EXPECT from themselves and from others.





Focus and questions

KEY MESSAGES FROM THE MODULE

share the key message with students and ask what others they would add. Help them make connections about their AHA moments from this module and what they should EXPECT from themselves and others going forward. How does this contribute to their journey to be a BETTER ME!

And finally, re-focusing students on the need to work on our Human. ARMA in particular our AWARFNLSS – ability to be in the present to veical apply KEG, and our self-CONTROL, being a course enough to make the vish shoices and decisions.

EXIT SLIDES

Choose the slide you would like to use to wrap the module or use your own method for helping students to articulate their learning and next steps.

Teacher Tips

Sharing what YOU have learned will be powerful for the students and give them permission to do the same.

My notes...



sample only

