

# WHY? BECAUSE THEIR BRAINS ARE BROKEN

The Adolescent Brain,
Technology,
Management and
Implications for Teaching
Dr. Derrick Mears, Ph.D., A.T.C.
Associate Professor of Teacher
Education
Western Washington University

Derrick.mears@wwu.edu

http://derrick-mears.pbworks.com

- Characteristics of Effective Management:
  - ▶ High level of student involvement with the work.
  - Clear student expectations.
  - ▶ Relatively little, wasted time, confusion or disruption.
  - Work-oriented but relaxed and pleasant atmosphere.

- ► High level of student involvement with the work:
  - ► <u>Effective</u>: Students are working.
  - ► <u>Ineffective:</u> Teacher is working.
- ► Clear Student Expectations:
  - ► <u>Effective:</u> Students know that assignments are based on learning expectations and tests are based on learning expectations.
  - Ineffective: Get a piece of the equipment and play the game or get a pencil and copy down the notes.

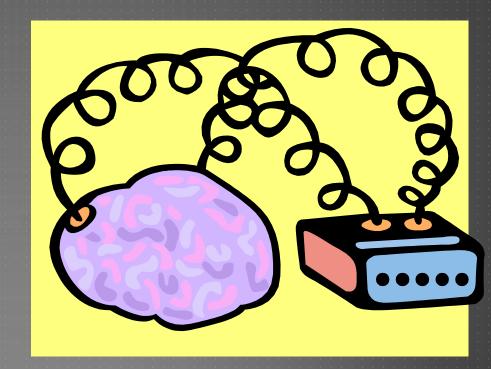
- Relatively little wasted time, confusion or disruption:
  - <u>Effective:</u> Discipline plan, Start class immediately, Assignments/Agenda posted.
  - Ineffective: Makes rules and punishments according to mood, takes roll and dallies, students ask "What am I supposed to do?" Repeatedly!

- Work-oriented but relaxed climate:
  - Effective: Time in practicing procedures until they become routines, has signal to bring the class to attention, knows how to praise and encourage the student.
  - Ineffective: Tells but does not rehearse procedures, yells and flicks the light switch or counts, generalized praise or none at all.

#### WHY? THEIR BRAINS ARE BROKEN

#### And The Saga Continues.....

Rewind and Replay



- ► Step # 1: Proximity Control:
  - Position yourself near the off task student in the context of teaching.
- ► Step # 2: Non-Verbal Prompt:
  - Provide a non-verbal reminder to the off-task student in the context of teaching.
- ► Step # 3: Verbal Prompt:
  - Can you do this or do I need to arrange you an alternative, I'll be able to tell.

- ► Step # 4: Removal to Safe-Seat:
  - Student completes think sheet and follows safe-seat guidelines.
  - May return to activity when completed.
  - Followed by a phone call home.
- Step # 5: Removal to Safe Seat:
  - Student completes think sheet and follows safe-seat guidelines. May not return to the class for the remainder of the day.
  - Phone call home.

- ► Step # 6: Removal to Buddy Room:
  - Student is removed to an alternative classroom or gymnasium and completes think sheet. May not return to class.
  - ▶ Phone call home.
- ► Step # 7: Referral to the Office:
  - Referral includes think sheets from previous consequences and log of phone conversation with parents.
- ► Step # 8: Student begins in Safe-Seat:
  - Completes think sheet of expected behavior before they are allowed to return to class participation.

## Behavioral Management Plan Samples