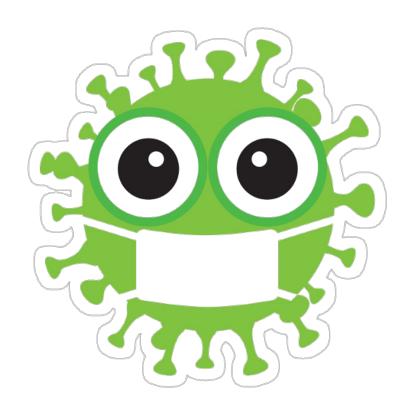
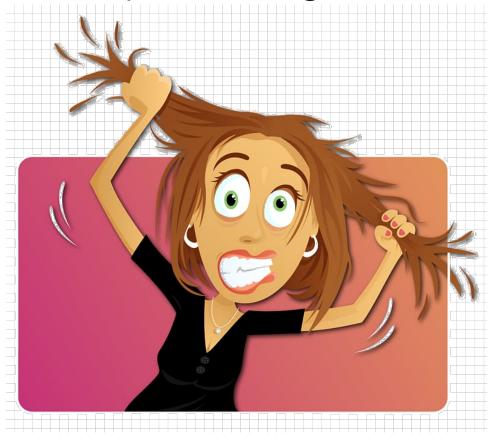


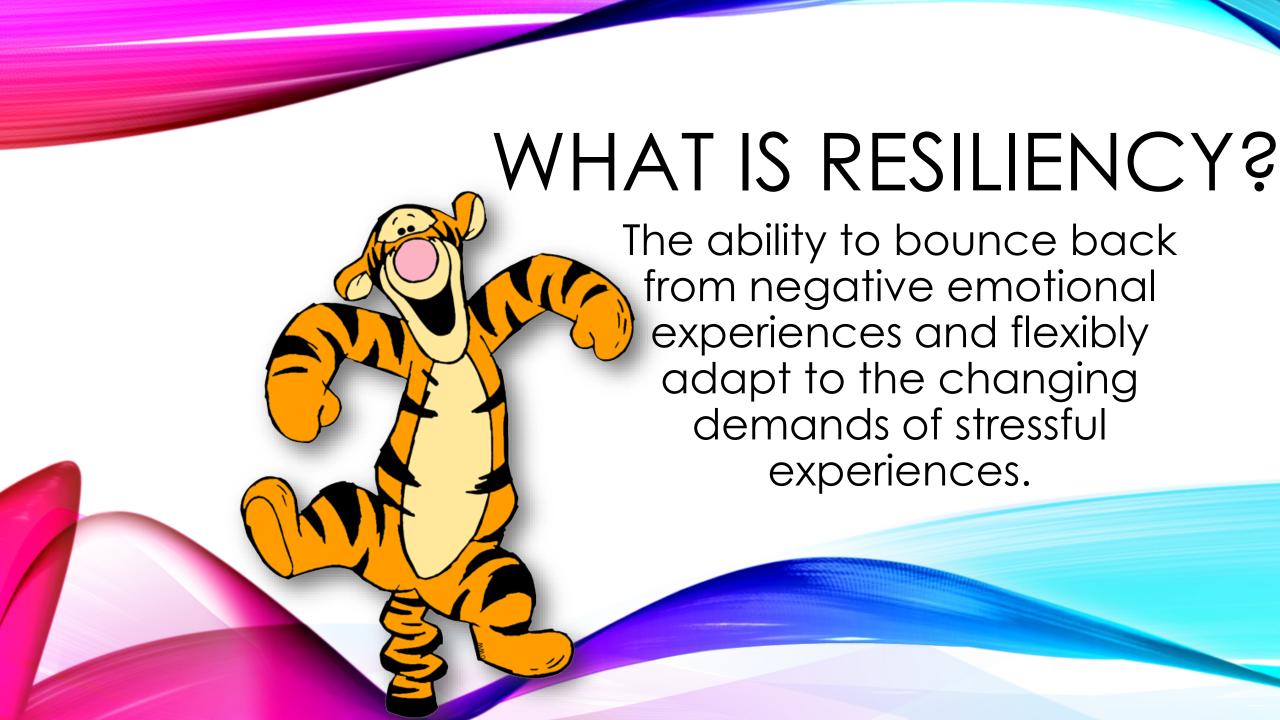
#### NOT FEELING YOURSELF LATELY???

Does this?



Have you feeling?





# VARIABLES THAT EFFECT RESILIENCE



Biology

**Optimism** 

Spirituality

**Mental Agility** 

**Positive Institutions** 

Connection

**Self-Regulation** 

**Self-Awareness** 

Self Efficacy/Mastery

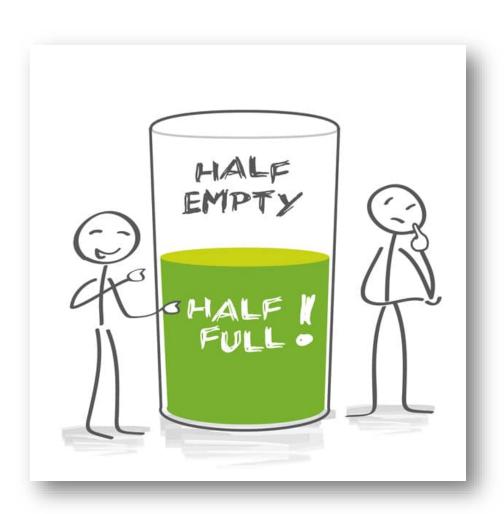
### GOOD NEWS!!!

# RESILIENCE CAN BE STRENGTHENED THROUGH PRACTICE WITH SPECIFIC TOOLS



#### **TOOL #1: OPTIMISM**

- Belief in a positive future
- Engine of resilience
- Being able to separate what you can control and what you have to accept
- Mindset: Problems are challenges, not threats



#### 2 TYPES OF OPTIMISM

#### **EXPLANATORY STYLE OPTIMISM**

The ability to explain an event external, unstable and in specific ways of explaining the problem.

#### **DISPOSITIONAL OPTIMISM**

Basic belief or expectation that good things are going to happen

### Explanatory Optimism

# WHEN BAD THINGS HAPPEN: THE BRAIN ASKS WHY?

#### Internal

(you caused event)

#### External

(other people or circumstance caused event)

#### Stable

(unchangeable, permanent)

#### Unstable

(temporary, changeable, can control)

#### Global

(negatively impacts every area)

#### Specific

(contained to that one event)

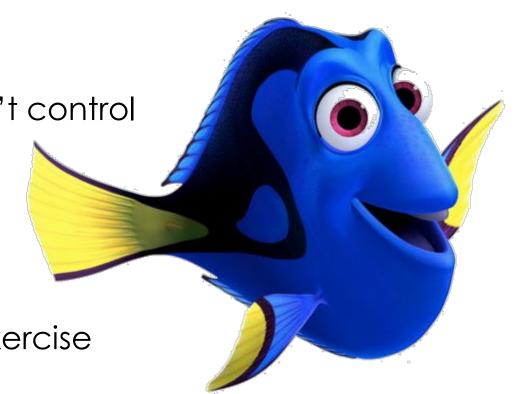
#### **BENEFITS OF OPTIMISM**



- Cope with stress more effectively
- Have a greater social support = increased relationship satisfaction
- Greater quality of life = happier, stronger well-being
- Better, more robust immune system
- Greater job satisfaction, school & sports performance = can excel in high demand, high pressure arenas

# WHAT OPTIMISTS DO DIFFERENTLY:

- Identify problems better
- See situation as a challenge and not a threat
- Work towards the problem vs. against it
- Accept the aspects of the situation they can't control
- More likely to seek out information
- More likely to ask for help
- Specific pro-active behaviors: Eat healthy, exercise routine, quality sleep, recharge



# TOOL #2: RECOGNIZING THINKING TRAPS

Beliefs we have that are inaccurate &

counterproductive





Our thoughts drive emotions, behaviors & physiology

Activating events

Beliefs determines everything

Consequences



Our fight, flight or freeze response is dependent upon the **personal interpretation** of an event.

**IMPORTANT FACT:** A body under stress is constantly in fight or flight mode. Cortisol builds up which leads to **INFLAMMATION IN THE BODY**.

Inflammation = Weakened Immune System/Chronic Illness

#### 5 THINKING TRAPS:

- MIND READING
- •ME
- •THEM
- CATASTROPHIZING
- •HELPLESSNESS



#### REAL TIME RESILIENCE

As soon as you hear a negative thought, challenge it.

#### Sentence Starter:

"That's not true because..."

(put in evidence to prove counterproductive thought is false)

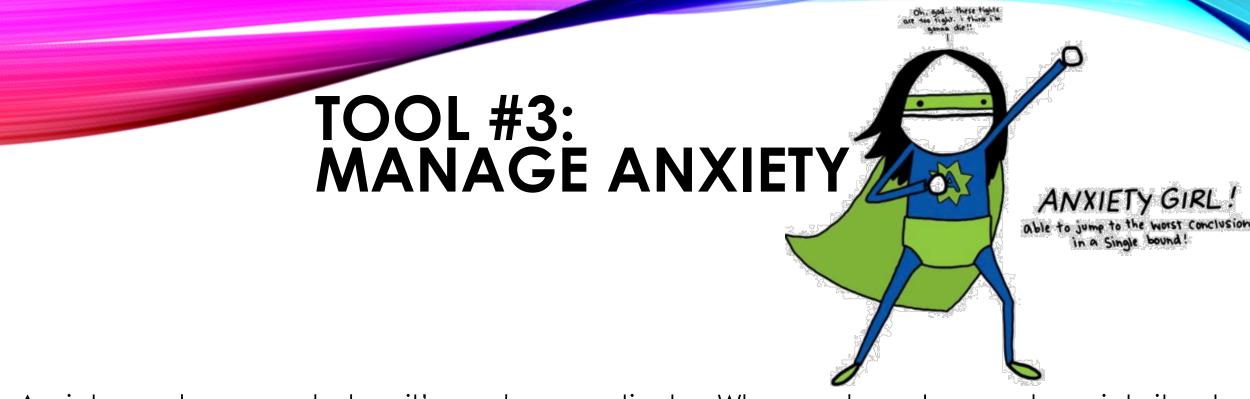
#### Reframe with optimism:

"A more helpful way to see this is... or a better way to see this is..." (fill in the rest with a more optimistic, perspective on the situation)

#### Plan:

If **X** happens, I will **Y**.

(Tip: use data (make it vivid) to prove why counterproductive thought is untrue)



Anxiety can be a good when it's used as a motivator. When we have too much anxiety it puts the body into fight or flight mode.

Anxiety usually comes when we catastrophize. Which is triggered by:

Ambiguity
Something you value highly & it's at stake
Already fear the situation



1. Start by **eliminating** catastrophic worst case scenarios in your head

1<sup>st</sup> get worse case out
 2<sup>nd</sup> work down your list (if there is multiple)
 3<sup>rd</sup> think of best case (generate a positive emotion)

- 2. Think of all the **probable** things that will likely happen
- 3. Plan purposeful action for what will probably happen



Viewing the world through the lens of "what I am receiving", enables you to feel attached to something bigger than yourself.

# HAVE AN ATTITUDE OF GRATITUDE



Hunt the Good Stuff

End of the day:

Write down 3 good things & explore why they happened



#### TOOL #5: CHARACTER STRENGTHS



Creativity



Curiosity



Judgment



Perspective



Bravery



Perseverance



Zest



Honesty



Social Intelligence



Kindness



Love



Leadership



**Fairness** 



Teamwork



**Forgiveness** 



Love of Learning



Gratitude



Spirituality



Self-Regulation



Humility



Appreciation of Beauty



Prudence



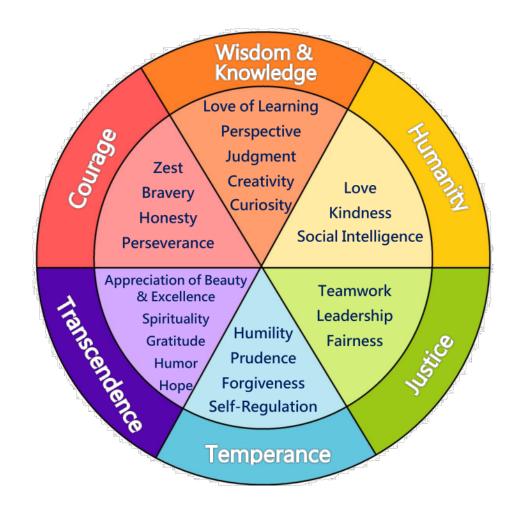
Hope



Humor

When you are operating from that piece of your character...

- Do you feel true to yourself?
- Do you feel authentic?
- Do you feel motivated within to use that part of your character?
- Are you energized when you use that part of your character?



You can take the VIA Survey:

https://www.viacharacter.org/survey/account/register

Which of my character strengths are most dominant, and how can I leverage them to fully create the life I want to live (to have more resilience)?



## SHADOW SIDE OF CHARACTER STRENGTHS

Sometimes the best of who we are can cause harm to ourselves or others...



### TOOL #6:PRACTICE ACTIVE CONSTRUCTIVE RESPONDING



VITAL QUESTIONS TO ASK YOURSELF TO SEE IF A RELATIONSHIP IS STRONG...

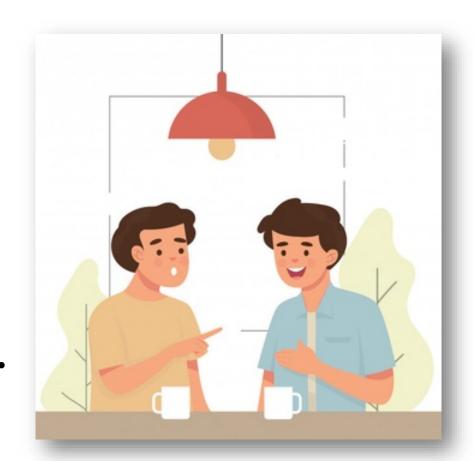
Will you be there for that other person when things go wrong?

(will they for you)

Even more important...

Will you be there for the other person when things go right? (will they for you)

- There are 4 different styles of responding when someone shares a positive experience.
- Only 1 of them will strengthen the relationship.
- The rest will erode it over time.



#### **Passive Constructive**

-You acknowledge what the person said but your are doing something else.

-You understand & support but are distracted

### Conversation Killer

#### **Passive Destructive**

-The person tells you good news but you change the conservation to yourself and shine light to your own positive experience.

### Conversation Hijacker

#### **Active Destructive**

-You acknowledge their good news but point out the negatives, concerns and downsides to their news.

-Creates animosity & distrust

### Joy Thief

#### **Active Constructive**

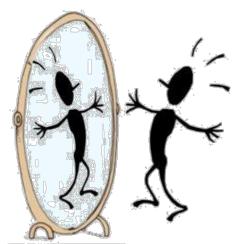
-You are present and actively engaged. You mirror the other person's excitement and share in their joy.

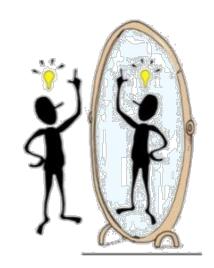
-Both people leave feeling closer.



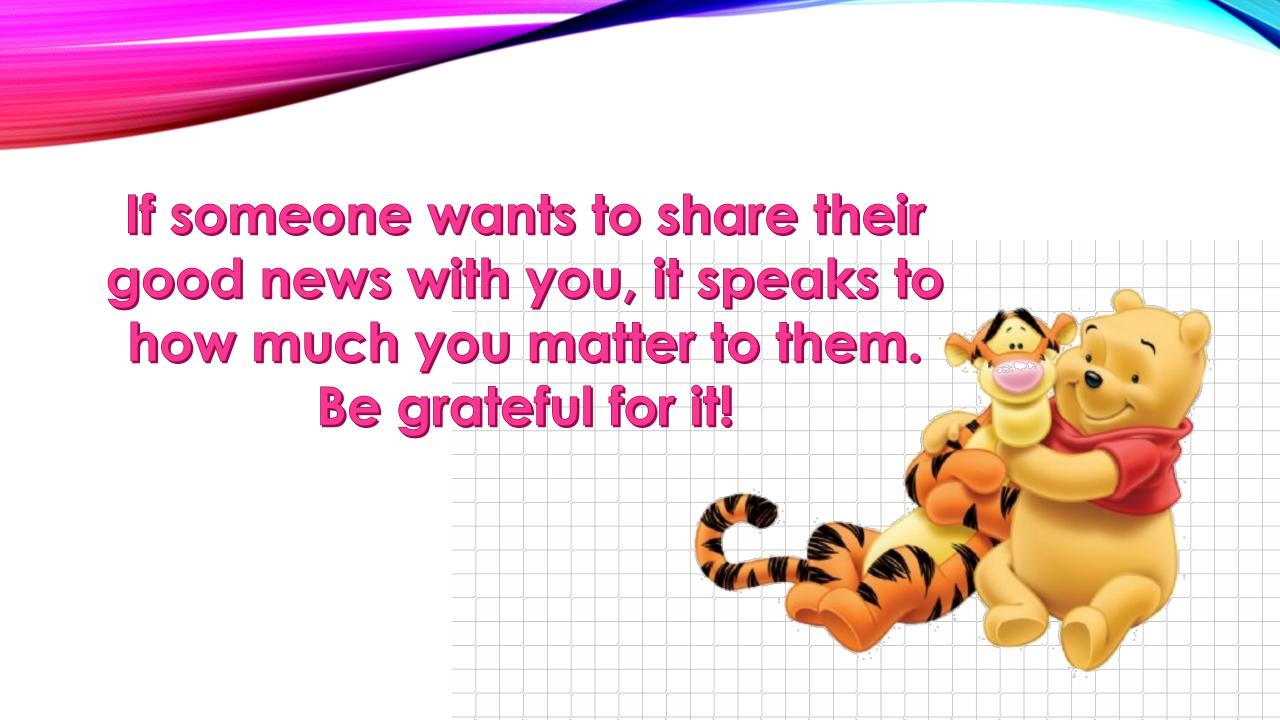
ACR is a skill that take reflection and willingness.







- What gets in your way of being authentically engaged?
- Work on non-verbal's to be more present.
- Simply ask ?'s follow-up ?s
- How do you express positive emotion?



#### IF YOU REMEMBER ANYTHING...

- Love & strong relationships
- Knowing who you can rely on no matter what's going on in your life
- Gratitude
- Attachment to something bigger than yourself

ARE ALL CRITICAL/VITAL FOR RESILIENCE

