The Role of Educators in Addressing Childhood Trauma

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Changes in Brain Architecture That Effect Cognition and Learning

• Brain adapts to survive unmanageable stress

• Adapations undermine progressive development of complex neural networks

• Previously adaptive behaviors interfere with learning, problem-solving, and self-regulation
Taking a Closer Look

• Limited Self-regulation
• Behavior Driven by Implicit Memories
• Language and Memory Problems
• Interruption of Prefrontal Cortex Development
• Deficiencies in Executive Function
• Interruption of Neural Integration
Instruction/Intervention That Can Reverse the Effects of Trauma

- Collaborative
- Interest Driven
- Conceptually Based
- Reflective
- Committed to Strengthening the Prefrontal Cortex
Components of Trauma-Sensitive Instruction
“Restorative Practices keep students in school, learning, rather than removing them for suspension or expulsion…”