NEUROPLASTICITY

A TINY GUIDE







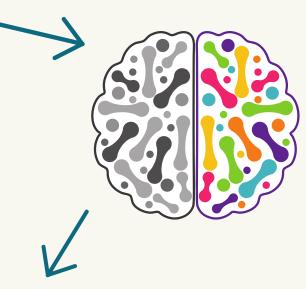
NEUROPLASTICITY

is the brain's ability to form new connections and pathways and change how its circuits are wired.



WHY DOES THAT MATTER?

Scientists used to believe that our brains didn't change after childhood.

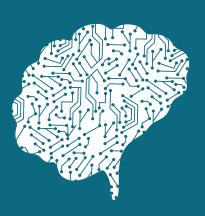


This isn't true! Your brain is adaptable, flexible, and stretchy for almost your whole life... like plastic.

People make all kinds of different things with plastic because it can be shaped into pretty much anything.



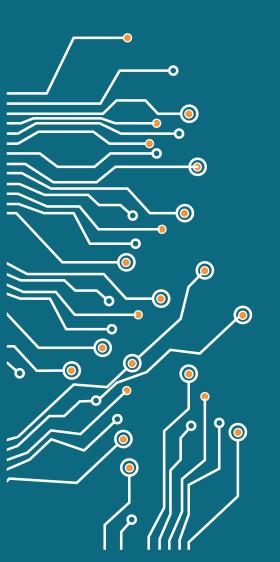
You aren't a fixed set of abilities.



You aren't done growing at a certain age.

You're capable of profound change throughout your entire life.





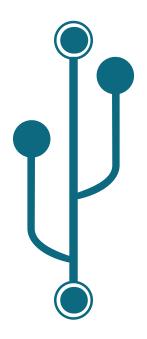
COOL, SO WHY SHOULD YOU CARE?

Because it means you can re-wire your brain!



WAIT, HOW IT IS WIRED NOW?

Well traveled circuits, the ones we use a lot, strengthen with use.



For better or worse, this is why habits are hard to break.

Because we have made circuits for certain thoughts, feelings, and behaviors, they become the first signal our brain gets and the first thing we do.



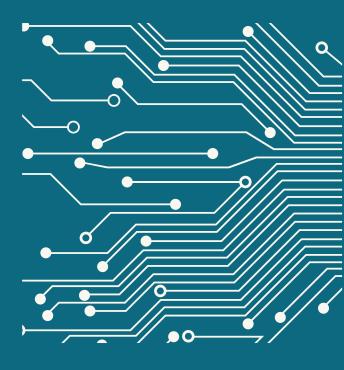
BUT THAT'S NOT ALL....





WHY ARE NEW CIRCUITS GOOD?

Because some of our well traveled circuits may have strenghtened towards habits we don't like or aren't good for us.





Neuroplasticity means with repeated and dedicated attention to a new action, feeling, or behavior we can actually re-wire our brain.



If we want to learn, grow, or change a habit we don't like, we can strengthen a new path and weaken an old one.



NEUROPLASTICITY means change is always possible.







You have far more control over your emotions, behaviors, skills, and choices than you might think.

That doesn't mean having control is easy. It isn't.

Growth and change take a lot of patience and focus.



Neuroplasticity means there's no "Well, this is just how I am."

There might be a scared you, unsure you, vulnerable you, but there is no fixed you.

So go make a new pathway!



YOU MATTER.

YOUR EMOTIONS MATTER.

OTHER PEOPLE MATTER.

