

why is an active mind essential to wellness

Why Is an Active Mind Essential to Wellness?

We all crave that elusive feeling of well-being – that sense of vibrant health encompassing our physical, emotional, and mental states. But too often, we focus solely on the physical aspects, neglecting the powerhouse within: our minds. This post delves into the crucial link between an active mind and overall wellness. We'll explore how mental agility, stimulation, and engagement directly impact our physical health, emotional stability, and even our lifespan. Prepare to discover why keeping your mind sharp isn't just a good idea – it's essential for a truly fulfilling and healthy life.

The Mind-Body Connection: More Than Just a Metaphor

The idea of a mind-body connection isn't some new-age concept; it's a fundamental truth. Your physical and mental health are intricately intertwined, influencing each other constantly. When your mind is sluggish and inactive, it directly affects your body. Think about it: stress, a product of a less active and adaptable mind, can manifest as headaches, muscle tension, digestive problems, and even weaken your immune system. Conversely, a vibrant, engaged mind contributes to better physical health outcomes.

Cognitive Stimulation: Fueling Your Brainpower

An active mind isn't just about avoiding cognitive decline; it's about actively engaging in activities that challenge and stimulate your brain. Think of your brain like a muscle: the more you use it, the stronger it becomes. This translates to improved memory, sharper focus, faster processing speeds, and increased creativity. Activities like learning a new language, playing challenging games (chess, Sudoku), taking up a musical instrument, or engaging in intellectually stimulating discussions all contribute to this cognitive fitness. Don't underestimate the power of puzzles, crosswords, or even just reading a challenging book. These activities keep your mind flexible and adaptable.

Emotional Resilience: The Shield Against Stress

A sharp mind is a resilient mind. When faced with challenges and stress, an actively engaged mind is better equipped to cope. Why? Because an active mind has developed a wider range of coping mechanisms, problem-solving skills, and the ability to view situations from different perspectives. This mental flexibility allows you to navigate stressful situations more effectively, reducing the negative impact on your emotional well-being. Regular mental exercise builds emotional resilience, leading to a more balanced and positive outlook on life.

Preventing Cognitive Decline: Investing in Your Future Self

As we age, the risk of cognitive decline, including dementia and Alzheimer's disease, increases. While genetics play a role, research strongly suggests that maintaining an active mind significantly reduces this risk. Engaging in mentally stimulating activities throughout your life strengthens neural connections, creating a more resilient brain capable of better withstanding the effects of aging. This proactive approach to brain health is an investment in your future self, ensuring a higher quality of life in your later years.

Social Connection and Mental Stimulation: The Synergy of Engagement

An active mind often leads to increased social interaction. Participating in group activities, joining clubs, volunteering, or simply engaging in meaningful conversations all contribute to a richer social life. This social engagement, in turn, further stimulates your mind, creating a positive feedback loop. Social connection reduces feelings of loneliness and isolation, both significant risk factors for poor mental health. This emphasizes the importance of actively seeking out opportunities for social interaction as a vital component of overall wellness.

Physical Health Benefits: The Unexpected Upside

The benefits of an active mind extend far beyond mental acuity. Studies have shown a strong correlation between cognitive engagement and improved physical health. Individuals with sharper minds tend to have lower rates of cardiovascular disease, reduced risk of stroke, and even improved sleep quality. This highlights the profound and interconnected nature of physical and mental health, underscoring the importance of holistic wellness approaches.

Finding Your Mental Fitness Routine: A Personalized Approach

The key to maintaining an active mind is consistency and finding activities you genuinely enjoy. There's no one-size-fits-all approach; what works for one person might not work for another. Experiment with different activities until you find those that resonate with you and become a regular part of your routine. The most important thing is to make mental stimulation a priority, just as you would prioritize physical exercise.

Conclusion

An active mind is not just a desirable trait; it's a fundamental pillar of overall wellness. By engaging in activities that challenge and stimulate your brain, you are not only sharpening your cognitive abilities but also enhancing your emotional resilience, protecting yourself against cognitive decline, and even improving your physical health. Embrace mental fitness as a crucial aspect of your well-being journey, and unlock the potential for a healthier,

happier, and more fulfilling life.

FAQs:

1. Q: I'm already busy; how can I find time for mental stimulation? A: Start small! Incorporate short bursts of brain-boosting activities into your day. Listen to a podcast during your commute, do a quick crossword puzzle during your lunch break, or spend 15 minutes reading before bed. Consistency, not duration, is key.
1. Q: What if I struggle with memory problems? Is it too late to improve my mental fitness? A: It's never too late! Even if you're experiencing some memory challenges, engaging in mentally stimulating activities can help strengthen existing neural pathways and even stimulate the growth of new ones. Consult a doctor if you have concerns, but don't let perceived limitations hold you back.
1. Q: Are there specific activities recommended for older adults to maintain mental acuity? A: Many activities benefit older adults, including social engagement (joining senior centers, book clubs), puzzles (crosswords, Sudoku), gentle brain-training apps, learning new skills (like photography or a new language), and staying socially active. Tailor activities to individual abilities and interests for optimal engagement.
1. Q: Can technology help improve mental fitness? A: Absolutely! Many apps and online resources offer brain-training exercises, language learning programs, and access to online courses. However, remember to balance screen time with other, non-digital activities for a well-rounded approach.
1. Q: How can I tell if I need professional help for mental health concerns? A: If you experience persistent feelings of sadness, anxiety, hopelessness, or significant changes in your behavior or sleep patterns, it's essential to seek professional help. A mental health professional can provide a proper diagnosis and create a personalized treatment plan. Don't hesitate to reach out for support when needed.

why is an active mind essential to wellness: Educating the Student Body Committee on Physical Activity and Physical Education in the School Environment, Food and Nutrition Board, Institute of Medicine, 2013-11-13 Physical inactivity is a key determinant of health across the

lifespan. A lack of activity increases the risk of heart disease, colon and breast cancer, diabetes mellitus, hypertension, osteoporosis, anxiety and depression and others diseases. Emerging literature has suggested that in terms of mortality, the global population health burden of physical inactivity approaches that of cigarette smoking. The prevalence and substantial disease risk associated with physical inactivity has been described as a pandemic. The prevalence, health impact, and evidence of changeability all have resulted in calls for action to increase physical activity across the lifespan. In response to the need to find ways to make physical activity a health priority for youth, the Institute of Medicine's Committee on Physical Activity and Physical Education in the School Environment was formed. Its purpose was to review the current status of physical activity and physical education in the school environment, including before, during, and after school, and examine the influences of physical activity and physical education on the short and long term physical, cognitive and brain, and psychosocial health and development of children and adolescents. Educating the Student Body makes recommendations about approaches for strengthening and improving programs and policies for physical activity and physical education in the school environment. This report lays out a set of guiding principles to guide its work on these tasks. These included: recognizing the benefits of instilling life-long physical activity habits in children; the value of using systems thinking in improving physical activity and physical education in the school environment; the recognition of current disparities in opportunities and the need to achieve equity in physical activity and physical education; the importance of considering all types of school environments; the need to take into consideration the diversity of students as recommendations are developed. This report will be of interest to local and national policymakers, school officials, teachers, and the education community, researchers, professional organizations, and parents interested in physical activity, physical education, and health for school-aged children and adolescents.

why is an active mind essential to wellness: *Keep Sharp* Sanjay Gupta, 2021-01-05 Keep your brain young, healthy, and sharp with this science-driven guide to protecting your mind from decline by neurosurgeon and CNN chief medical correspondent Dr. Sanjay Gupta. Throughout our life, we look for ways to keep our minds sharp and effortlessly productive. Now, globetrotting neurosurgeon Dr. Sanjay Gupta offers “the book all of us need, young and old” (Walter Isaacson, #1 New York Times bestselling author of *The Code Breaker*) with insights from top scientists all over the world, whose cutting-edge research can help you heighten and protect brain function and maintain cognitive health at any age. *Keep Sharp* debunks common myths about aging and mental decline, explores whether there’s a “best” diet or exercise regimen for the brain, and explains whether it’s healthier to play video games that test memory and processing speed, or to engage in more social interaction. Discover what we can learn from “super-brained” people who are in their eighties and nineties with no signs of slowing down—and whether there are truly any benefits to drugs, supplements, and vitamins. Dr. Gupta also addresses brain disease, particularly Alzheimer’s, answers all your questions about the signs and symptoms, and shows how to ward against it and stay healthy while caring for a partner in cognitive decline. He likewise provides you with a personalized twelve-week program featuring practical strategies to strengthen your brain every day. *Keep Sharp* is the “must-read owner’s manual” (Arianna Huffington) you’ll need to keep your brain young and healthy regardless of your age!

why is an active mind essential to wellness: *Mind Easing* Bick Wanck, 2019-03-05 Today more than ever, everyone must be her or his own healer, and this is especially true in the management of anxiety and depression. In the first major conceptual leap in mental health care in forty years, *Mind Easing's* Three-Layered Healing Plan harmonizes wellness approaches, therapy, and, when needed, medicine into a safe and effective plan tailored to the needs and wishes of the individual. Written by noted psychiatrist Bick Wanck, MD, one of the founders of the American Academy of Addiction Psychiatry and an experienced clinician, writer, and educator, *Mind Easing* shows how to relieve and often resolve anxiety and depression by assisting the mind's natural ability to heal. Along with non-medicinal healing methods, *Mind Easing* shows how to use psychiatric

medicine (if needed) safely and effectively as part of a mindfully constructed healing plan. Because some psychiatric medicines can blunt feelings and dull thinking, they can impede the flow of healing and interfere with the pleasures of living. Mind Easing suggests when and how psychiatric medicines may be stopped when they are counterproductive to healing. Mind Easing presents a comprehensive Three-Layered Healing Plan for anxiety and depression. Some readers will find all they need in Layer One: Enhancement of Healing without needing the help of a professional. Others will benefit from Layer Two: Guidance which describes how psychotherapy, body and energy work, and spiritual guidance may be used to assist healing. Those readers who experience severe anxiety and depression will find helpful information in Layer Three: Restoration of Healing. where Dr. Wanck explains the concepts of soft and hard anxiety and depression. Soft anxiety and depression are generally caused by stressful current life events or past adversity where hard anxiety and depression are caused by genetically inherited conditions or by physiologic hardening of symptoms resulting from persistent or severe adversity or trauma.

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why is an active mind essential to wellness: A Wellness Handbook for the Performing Artist Alena Gerst LCSW RYT, 2014-04-17 Celebrity, fame, wealth, the big time for many people, these are some of the images conjured by thoughts of a career as a professional performing artist. But for the hundreds of thousands of active professional performing artists in the United States, the big time matters far less than all the time. In other words, your health needs as a performer using your body, voice, and emotions in your work far outweigh mainstream recommendations for optimal health. In A Wellness Handbook for the Performing Artist: The Performers Essential Guide to Staying Healthy in Body, Mind, and Spirit, Alena Gerst examines issues that go beyond the importance of training or navigating the business of performing. It is the first book to prioritize the performers well-being, your ultimate key to a long and satisfying career.

why is an active mind essential to wellness: What Is the Evidence on the Role of the Arts in Improving Health and Well-Being Daisy Fancourt, Saoirse Finn, 2019-06 Over the past two decades, there has been a major increase in research into the effects of the arts on health and well-being, alongside developments in practice and policy activities in different countries across the

WHO European Region and further afield. This report synthesizes the global evidence on the role of the arts in improving health and well-being, with a specific focus on the WHO European Region. Results from over 3000 studies identified a major role for the arts in the prevention of ill health, promotion of health, and management and treatment of illness across the lifespan. The reviewed evidence included study designs such as uncontrolled pilot studies, case studies, small-scale cross-sectional surveys, nationally representative longitudinal cohort studies, community-wide ethnographies and randomized controlled trials from diverse disciplines. The beneficial impact of the arts could be furthered through acknowledging and acting on the growing evidence base; promoting arts engagement at the individual, local and national levels; and supporting cross-sectoral collaboration.

why is an active mind essential to wellness: *Canyon Ranch 30 Days to a Better Brain* Richard Carmona, 2014-05-06 "In this user-friendly guide, Dr. Richard Carmona gives specific, practical advice about optimizing brain function based on the best scientific evidence. I recommend it." (Andrew Weil, author of *Healthy Aging and True Food*). Synthesizing the cognitive science behind memory, sleep, stress, and addiction, Canyon Ranch's 30 Days to a Better Brain is the definitive guide to caring for your brain during all stages of your life. Dr. Carmona and the experts at America's leading wellness center guide you through the anatomy of the aging brain, how stress and toxins affect your mind, and the importance of sleep, laying out a thirty-day nutrition, exercise, and medical plan to help you achieve optimal brain health. You'll also find answers to all your questions, including how your health is affecting your brain, what foods to eat and what to avoid, whether or not supplements are necessary, what important medical tests to ask your doctor about, and how best to challenge your brain. Also included are techniques for practicing mindfulness, meditation, and spiritual contemplation. The immense benefits of this thirty-day program include better memory, mood, and sleep; faster, sharper thinking; more energy; quicker reflexes; safer driving; improved attention span; and much more. Combining the best of traditional and alternative therapies, behavioral science, and exercise physiology, this indispensable guide from "one of the finest Surgeon Generals in our nation's history" (New York Times bestselling author Dean Ornish) will help you maintain and enhance a strong, agile mind so that your body does not outlive your brain.

why is an active mind essential to wellness: Insight Into a Bright Mind Nicole Tetreault, Ph.D., 2021-03-30 Are you bright? Do you know someone who is? Among the bright population, many social, emotional, and intellectual abilities are unrecognized. Bright people are misunderstood and mislabeled as awkward geeks, mad scientists, maladjusted poets, oversensitive artists, hyperactive clowns, or antisocial misfits. Do you want to understand the science behind why intelligent, sensitive, and highly creative brains are simply different? In *Insight into a Bright Mind*, Dr. Nicole Tetreault translates recent groundbreaking research examining the minds of the most highly intelligent, creative, and intense brains, and explores new directions for the neurodiverse experiences of humans. You will learn how your brain is as unique as your fingerprint, and how your experience is elevated because you are simply hard-wired differently! *Insight into a Bright Mind* is intensely argued in favor of neuroindividuality, superbly researched with the latest scientific data, and deeply invested in engaging with a myriad of bright minds capturing their essence through storytelling and voice. Be liberated to embrace your essence with greater self-compassion and awareness, and unlock your unconventional mind.

why is an active mind essential to wellness: Mental Health, Substance Use, and Wellbeing in Higher Education National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, Health and Medicine Division, Policy and Global Affairs, Board on Health Sciences Policy, Board on Higher Education and Workforce, Committee on Mental Health, Substance Use, and Wellbeing in STEMM Undergraduate and Graduate Education, 2021-03-05 Student wellbeing is foundational to academic success. One recent survey of postsecondary educators found that nearly 80 percent believed emotional wellbeing is a very or extremely important factor in student success. Studies have found the dropout rates for students with a diagnosed mental health problem range from 43 percent to as high as 86 percent. While dealing with stress is a normal part of life, for some

students, stress can adversely affect their physical, emotional, and psychological health, particularly given that adolescence and early adulthood are when most mental illnesses are first manifested. In addition to students who may develop mental health challenges during their time in postsecondary education, many students arrive on campus with a mental health problem or having experienced significant trauma in their lives, which can also negatively affect physical, emotional, and psychological wellbeing. The nation's institutions of higher education are seeing increasing levels of mental illness, substance use and other forms of emotional distress among their students. Some of the problematic trends have been ongoing for decades. Some have been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic and resulting economic consequences. Some are the result of long-festered systemic racism in almost every sphere of American life that are becoming more widely acknowledged throughout society and must, at last, be addressed. *Mental Health, Substance Use, and Wellbeing in Higher Education* lays out a variety of possible strategies and approaches to meet increasing demand for mental health and substance use services, based on the available evidence on the nature of the issues and what works in various situations. The recommendations of this report will support the delivery of mental health and wellness services by the nation's institutions of higher education.

why is an active mind essential to wellness: Keep Your Wits About You Vonetta M. Dotson, 2022-03-08 Science tells us that by keeping our brain as healthy as possible, we can optimize our cognitive abilities, mental health, and physical functioning at any age. Healthy behaviors, such as staying physically, mentally, and socially active, maintaining a healthy diet, and getting good sleep, are the most powerful tools we have to maintain healthy brains. This book provides science-based facts and practical tools for the reader to achieve and maintain a healthy brain.

why is an active mind essential to wellness: Dimensions of Wellbeing Akbar Husain, Mohammad Akram, 2022-05-16 In this book, dimensions of wellbeing have been discussed separately. Dimensions of wellbeing make positive lifestyle changes. It has been divided into different dimensions i.e., general wellbeing, subjective well-being, psychological wellbeing, mental well-being, cognitive wellbeing, emotional wellbeing, social wellbeing, environmental wellbeing, spiritual wellbeing, and work-related wellbeing. The authors of this book deal with the many issues such as concepts and definitions, measurement and research that arise in the domain of wellbeing. This is a sourcebook for a number of reasons. First, it is providing a detailed account of various dimensions of wellbeing. Secondly, it is based on rigorous and extensive research, which offers a reliable, but also significant picture of one of the topics in the field of Positive Psychology. This book will be useful for researchers in the field of Psychology. Education and Sociology and Mental Health Professionals.

why is an active mind essential to wellness: The Power of Habit Charles Duhigg, 2012-02-28 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • This instant classic explores how we can change our lives by changing our habits. NAMED ONE OF THE BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR BY The Wall Street Journal • Financial Times In *The Power of Habit*, award-winning business reporter Charles Duhigg takes us to the thrilling edge of scientific discoveries that explain why habits exist and how they can be changed. Distilling vast amounts of information into engrossing narratives that take us from the boardrooms of Procter & Gamble to the sidelines of the NFL to the front lines of the civil rights movement, Duhigg presents a whole new understanding of human nature and its potential. At its core, *The Power of Habit* contains an exhilarating argument: The key to exercising regularly, losing weight, being more productive, and achieving success is understanding how habits work. As Duhigg shows, by harnessing this new science, we can transform our businesses, our communities, and our lives. With a new Afterword by the author “Sharp, provocative, and useful.”—Jim Collins “Few [books] become essential manuals for business and living. *The Power of Habit* is an exception. Charles Duhigg not only explains how habits are formed but how to kick bad ones and hang on to the good.”—Financial Times “A flat-out great read.”—David Allen, bestselling author of *Getting Things Done: The Art of Stress-Free Productivity* “You’ll never look at yourself, your organization, or your

world quite the same way.”—Daniel H. Pink, bestselling author of *Drive* and *A Whole New Mind*
“Entertaining . . . enjoyable . . . fascinating . . . a serious look at the science of habit formation and change.”—The New York Times Book Review

why is an active mind essential to wellness: Healthy lives, healthy people Great Britain: Department of Health, 2010-11-30 The Government recognises that many lifestyle-driven health problems are at alarming levels: obesity; high rates of sexually transmitted infections; a relatively large population of drug users; rising levels of harm from alcohol; 80,000 deaths a year from smoking; poor mental health; health inequalities between rich and poor. This white paper outlines the Government's proposals to protect the population from serious health threats; help people live longer, healthier and more fulfilling lives; and improve the health of the poorest. It aims to empower individuals to make healthy choices and give communities and local government the freedom, responsibility and funding to innovate and develop ways of improving public health in their area. The paper responds to Sir Michael Marmot's strategic review of health inequalities in England post 2010 - Fair society, healthy lives (available at <http://www.marmotreview.org/AssetLibrary/pdfs/Reports/FairSocietyHealthyLives.pdf>) and adopts its life course framework for tackling the wider social determinants of health. A new dedicated public health service - Public Health England - will be created to ensure excellence, expertise and responsiveness, particularly on health protection where a national response is vital. The paper gives a timetable showing how the proposals will be implemented and an annex sets out a vision of the role of the Director of Public Health. The Department is also publishing a fuller story on the health of England in *Our health and wellbeing today* (http://www.dh.gov.uk/prod_consum_dh/groups/dh_digitalassets/@dh/@en/@ps/documents/digitalasset/dh_122238.pdf), detailing the challenges and opportunities, and in 2011 will issue documents on major public health issues.

why is an active mind essential to wellness: The Secret Language of Your Body Inna Segal, 2010-08-31 Discover the groundbreaking bestseller and TikTok sensation that reveals the connection between your physical health and emotional well-being, and offers processes for healing—featuring a foreword by Bernie Siegel, M.D. Dive into the enchanting world of holistic healing with renowned intuitive healer Inna Segal. Digging into the root causes of over 300 symptoms and medical conditions, she lays bare the mental, emotional, and energetic triggers behind physical ailments. This comprehensive guide comes complete with a free thirty-five-minute audio download where Inna herself guides you into a powerful self-care and well-being journey, attuning you to the messages your body communicates. Venture into an empowering, transformative journey that calls upon your body's built-in ability to heal itself. With Segal's gentle guidance, you'll not only restore your physical self but also break free from the shackles of limiting beliefs and emotions that may be hindering your growth and vitality. Decode the secret language of disease, access quick and easy exercises for nurturing your organs, and use color to rejuvenate your life. By the end of this inspiring journey, you'll have uncovered and applied the life-altering teachings your body has been signaling you all along and be able to live the life you were truly meant to live.

why is an active mind essential to wellness: Physical Education and Yoga For Sem.-4 (According to NEP-2020) S.K.Bansal, 2023-05-11 Table of Content:- 1. Physical Education : Meaning, Definition, Aims, Objectives And Importance 2. History Of Physical Education 3. Concept Of Fitness And Wellness 4. Weight Management 5. Life Style 6. Yoga 7. Asana : Meaning, Definition And Classification 8. Pranayama : Meaning, Definition And Functions 9. Some Important Asanas (Practical) 10. Traditional Games Of India 11. Recreation In Physical Education. More Information:- The authors of this book are Mr. S.K. Bansal.

why is an active mind essential to wellness: The Merriam-Webster Thesaurus Merriam-Webster, 2023-06 Find the right word fast! This indispensable guide from America's Language Experts is the perfect tool for readers and writers! This all new edition of The Merriam-Webster Thesaurus features more than 150,000 word choices, including related words, antonyms, and near antonyms. Each main entry provides the meaning shared by the synonyms listed

and abundant usage examples show words used in context. Words alphabetically organized for ease of use. A great complement to The Merriam-Webster Dictionary and perfect for school, home, or office.

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why is an active mind essential to wellness: Willpower Roy F. Baumeister, John Tierney, 2011-09-01 One of the world's most esteemed and influential psychologists, Roy F. Baumeister, teams with New York Times science writer John Tierney to reveal the secrets of self-control and how to master it. Deep and provocative analysis of people's battle with temptation and masterful insights into understanding willpower: why we have it, why we don't, and how to build it. A terrific read. —Ravi Dhar, Yale School of Management, Director of Center for Customer Insights Pioneering research psychologist Roy F. Baumeister collaborates with New York Times science writer John Tierney to revolutionize our understanding of the most coveted human virtue: self-control. Drawing on cutting-edge research and the wisdom of real-life experts, Willpower shares lessons on how to focus our strength, resist temptation, and redirect our lives. It shows readers how to be realistic when setting goals, monitor their progress, and how to keep faith when they falter. By blending practical wisdom with the best of recent research science, Willpower makes it clear that whatever we seek—from happiness to good health to financial security—we won't reach our goals without first learning to harness self-control.

why is an active mind essential to wellness: *Active Wellness* Gayle Reichler, 2003 Enlightened by the author's own story of recovery from cancer, this is a unique lifestyle philosophy and a practical guide to feeling one's best for a lifetime. In this revised, updated, and completely repackaged paperback edition, Active Wellness confirms Gayle Reichler as America's Wellness Coach.

why is an active mind essential to wellness: Blue Mind Wallace J. Nichols, 2014-07-22 A landmark book by marine biologist Wallace J. Nichols on the remarkable effects of water on our health and well-being. Why are we drawn to the ocean each summer? Why does being near water set our minds and bodies at ease? In Blue Mind, Wallace J. Nichols revolutionizes how we think about these questions, revealing the remarkable truth about the benefits of being in, on, under, or simply near water. Combining cutting-edge neuroscience with compelling personal stories from top athletes, leading scientists, military veterans, and gifted artists, he shows how proximity to water can improve performance, increase calm, diminish anxiety, and increase professional success. Blue Mind not only illustrates the crucial importance of our connection to water; it provides a paradigm shifting blueprint for a better life on this Blue Marble we call home.

why is an active mind essential to wellness: *How the Body Knows Its Mind* Sian Beilock, 2017-03-14 Takes you inside the amazing science of how the body affects the mind, and shows how to use that wisdom to live smarter and maximize what your body teaches your mind--

why is an active mind essential to wellness: Communities in Action National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, Health and Medicine Division, Board on Population Health and Public Health Practice, Committee on Community-Based Solutions to Promote Health Equity in the United States, 2017-04-27 In the United States, some populations suffer from far greater disparities in health than others. Those disparities are caused not only by fundamental differences in health status across segments of the population, but also because of inequities in factors that impact health status, so-called determinants of health. Only part of an individual's health status depends on his or her behavior and choice; community-wide problems like poverty, unemployment, poor education, inadequate housing, poor public transportation, interpersonal violence, and decaying neighborhoods also contribute to health inequities, as well as the historic and ongoing interplay of structures, policies, and norms that shape lives. When these factors are not optimal in a community, it does not mean they are intractable: such inequities can be mitigated by social policies that can shape health in powerful ways. Communities in Action: Pathways to Health Equity seeks to delineate the causes of

and the solutions to health inequities in the United States. This report focuses on what communities can do to promote health equity, what actions are needed by the many and varied stakeholders that are part of communities or support them, as well as the root causes and structural barriers that need to be overcome.

why is an active mind essential to wellness: *The Wellness Book* Herbert Benson, Eileen M. Stuart, 1993-10 A comprehensive guide to maintaining health and treating stress-related illness. Boston-based Benson and Stuart offer proven techniques developed by the Mind/Body Institute for exercise, diet, and stress management to help readers cope with many common conditions. Includes how-to illustrations and case histories.

why is an active mind essential to wellness: *Indigenous Leadership in Higher Education* Robin Minthorn, Alicia Fedelina Chavez, 2014-12-17 This volume offers new perspectives from Indigenous leaders in academic affairs, student affairs and central administration to improve colleges and universities in service to Indigenous students and professionals. It discusses and illustrates ways that leadership norms, values, assumptions and behaviors can often find their origins in cultural identities, and how such assumptions can affect the involvement of colleges and universities in serving Indigenous Peoples. It contributes to leadership development and reflection among novice, experienced, and emerging leaders in higher education and provides key recommendations for transforming higher education. This book introduces readers to relationships between Indigenous identities and leadership in diverse educational environments and institutions and will benefit policy makers in education, student affairs professionals, scholars, faculty and students.

why is an active mind essential to wellness: *Mind: A Journey to the Heart of Being Human (Norton Series on Interpersonal Neurobiology)* Daniel J. Siegel, 2016-10-18 A New York Times Bestseller. A scientist's exploration into the mysteries of the human mind. What is the mind? What is the experience of the self truly made of? How does the mind differ from the brain? Though the mind's contents—its emotions, thoughts, and memories—are often described, the essence of mind is rarely, if ever, defined. In this book, noted neuropsychiatrist and New York Times best-selling author Daniel J. Siegel, MD, uses his characteristic sensitivity and interdisciplinary background to offer a definition of the mind that illuminates the how, what, when, where, and even why of who we are, of what the mind is, and what the mind's self has the potential to become. MIND takes the reader on a deep personal and scientific journey into consciousness, subjective experience, and information processing, uncovering the mind's self-organizational properties that emerge from both the body and the relationships we have with one another, and with the world around us. While making a wide range of sciences accessible and exciting—from neurobiology to quantum physics, anthropology to psychology—this book offers an experience that addresses some of our most pressing personal and global questions about identity, connection, and the cultivation of well-being in our lives.

why is an active mind essential to wellness: *Mind Your Heart* Aggie Casey, Herbert Benson, 2004-04-13 This book's groundbreaking Cardiac Wellness Program uses relaxation response techniques, nutrition, and exercise to reduce cholesterol, blood pressure, and other risk factors for heart disease.

why is an active mind essential to wellness: *When I'm 64* National Research Council, Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education, Board on Behavioral, Cognitive, and Sensory Sciences, Committee on Aging Frontiers in Social Psychology, Personality, and Adult Developmental Psychology, 2006-02-13 By 2030 there will be about 70 million people in the United States who are older than 64. Approximately 26 percent of these will be racial and ethnic minorities. Overall, the older population will be more diverse and better educated than their earlier cohorts. The range of late-life outcomes is very dramatic with old age being a significantly different experience for financially secure and well-educated people than for poor and uneducated people. The early mission of behavioral science research focused on identifying problems of older adults, such as isolation, caregiving, and dementia. Today, the field of gerontology is more interdisciplinary.

When I'm 64 examines how individual and social behavior play a role in understanding diverse outcomes in old age. It also explores the implications of an aging workforce on the economy. The book recommends that the National Institute on Aging focus its research support in social, personality, and life-span psychology in four areas: motivation and behavioral change; socioemotional influences on decision-making; the influence of social engagement on cognition; and the effects of stereotypes on self and others. When I'm 64 is a useful resource for policymakers, researchers and medical professionals.

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