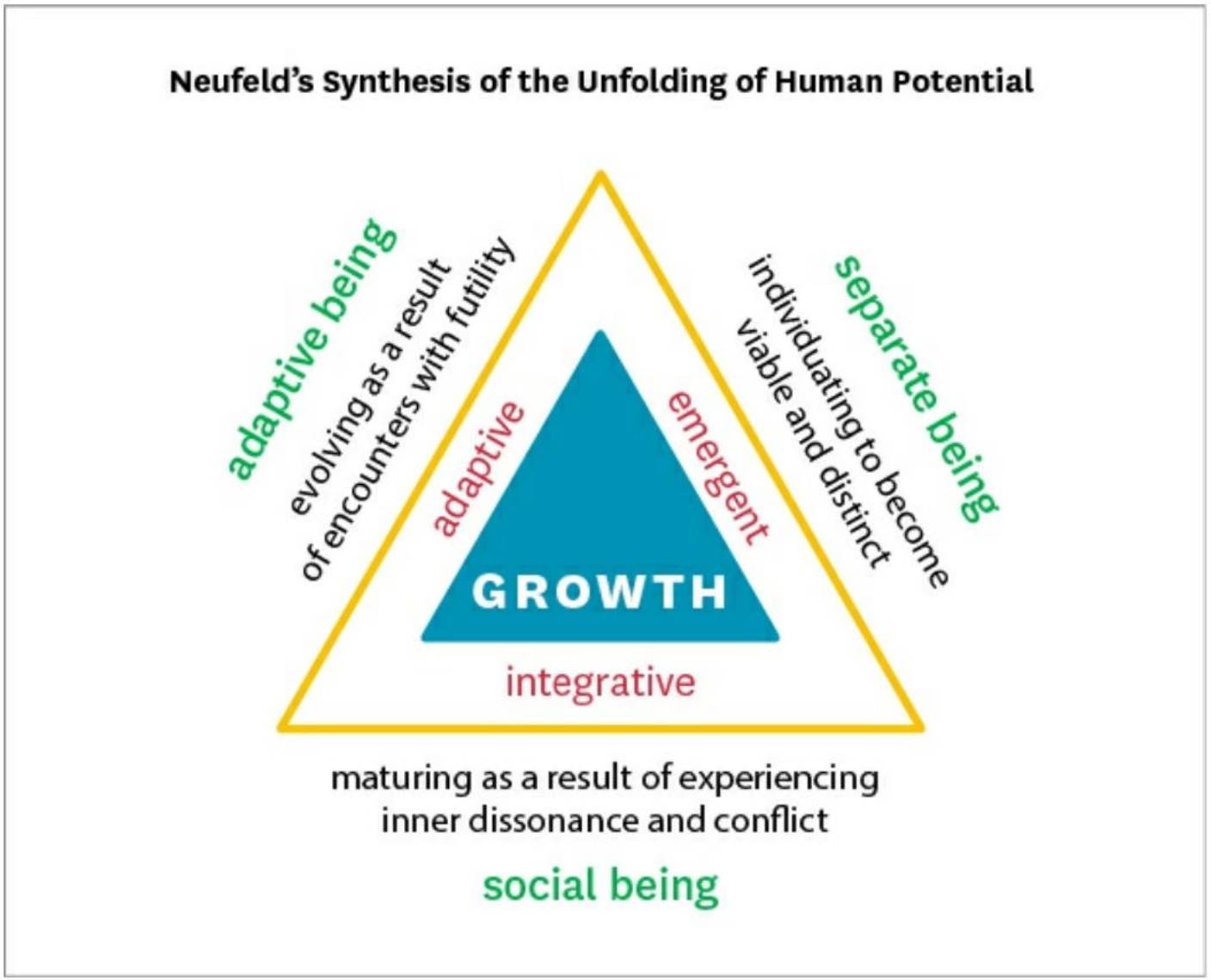


Image taken from Neufeld Intensive I: Making Sense of Kids course

Maturation process

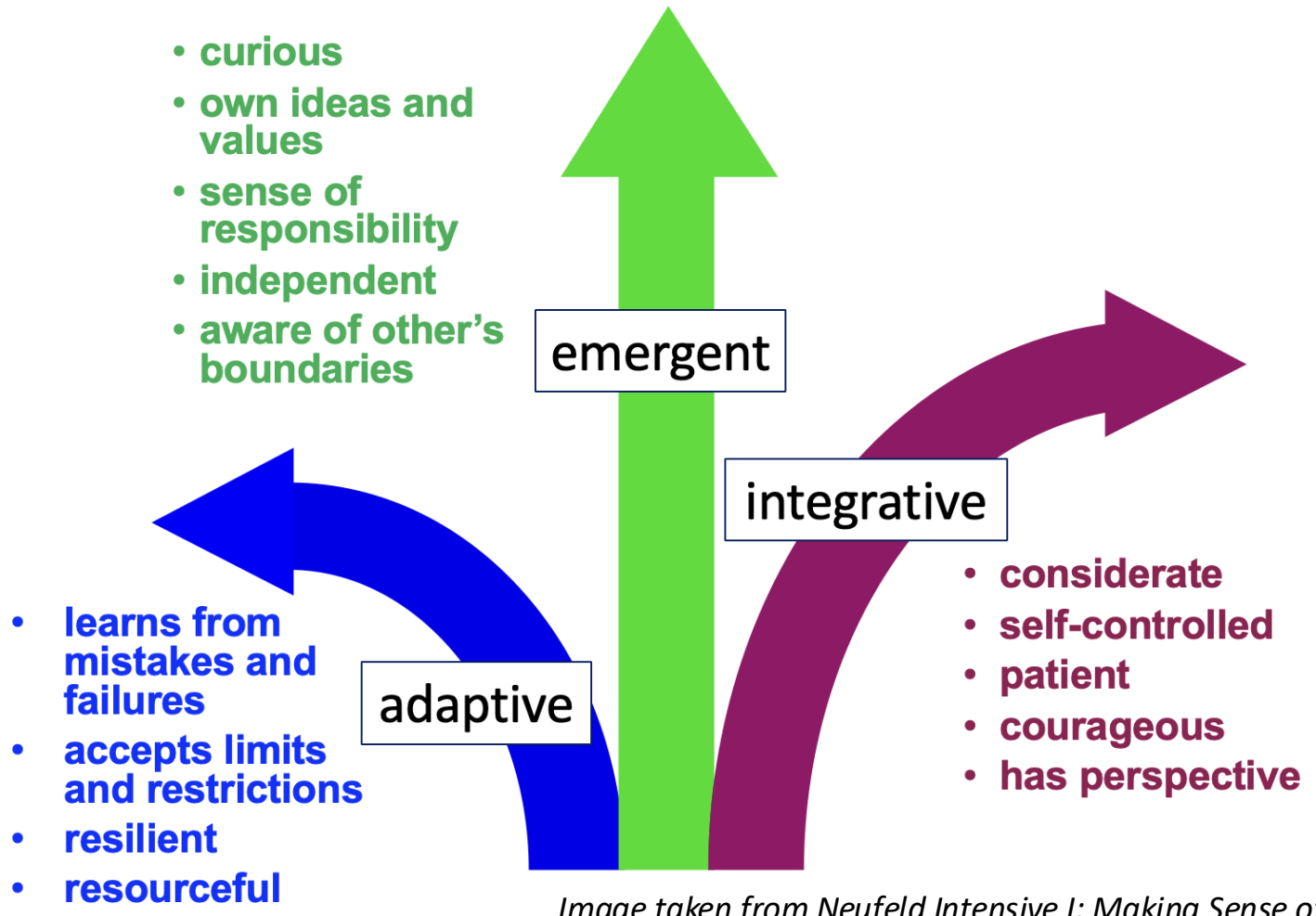


Image taken from Neufeld Intensive I: Making Sense of Kids course

These 'fruit' of maturation are not yet fully developed in the 4-5-year-old. These cannot be taught or pushed. They will spontaneously grow with the right conditions in place.

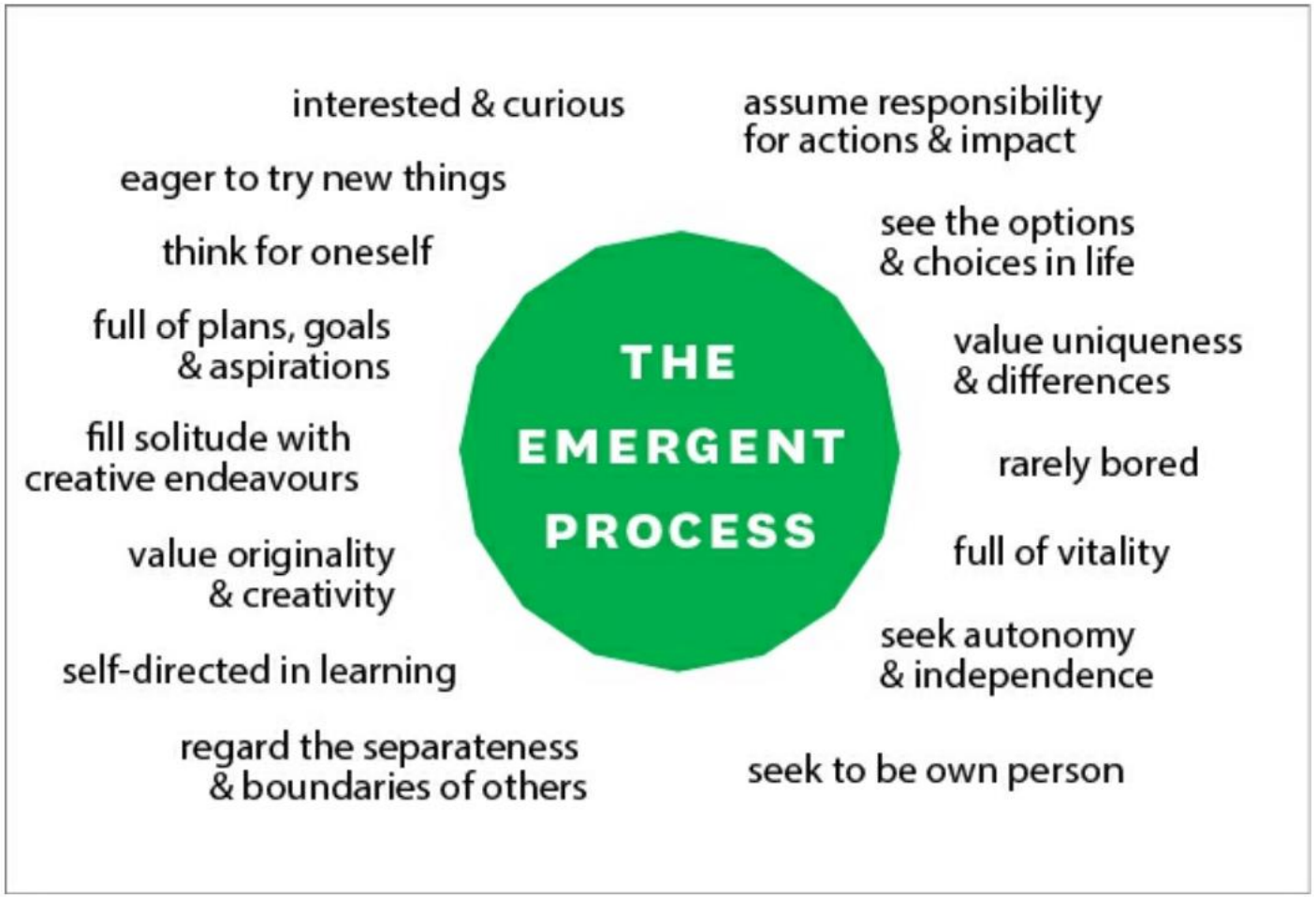


Image taken from Neufeld Intensive I: Making Sense of Kids course

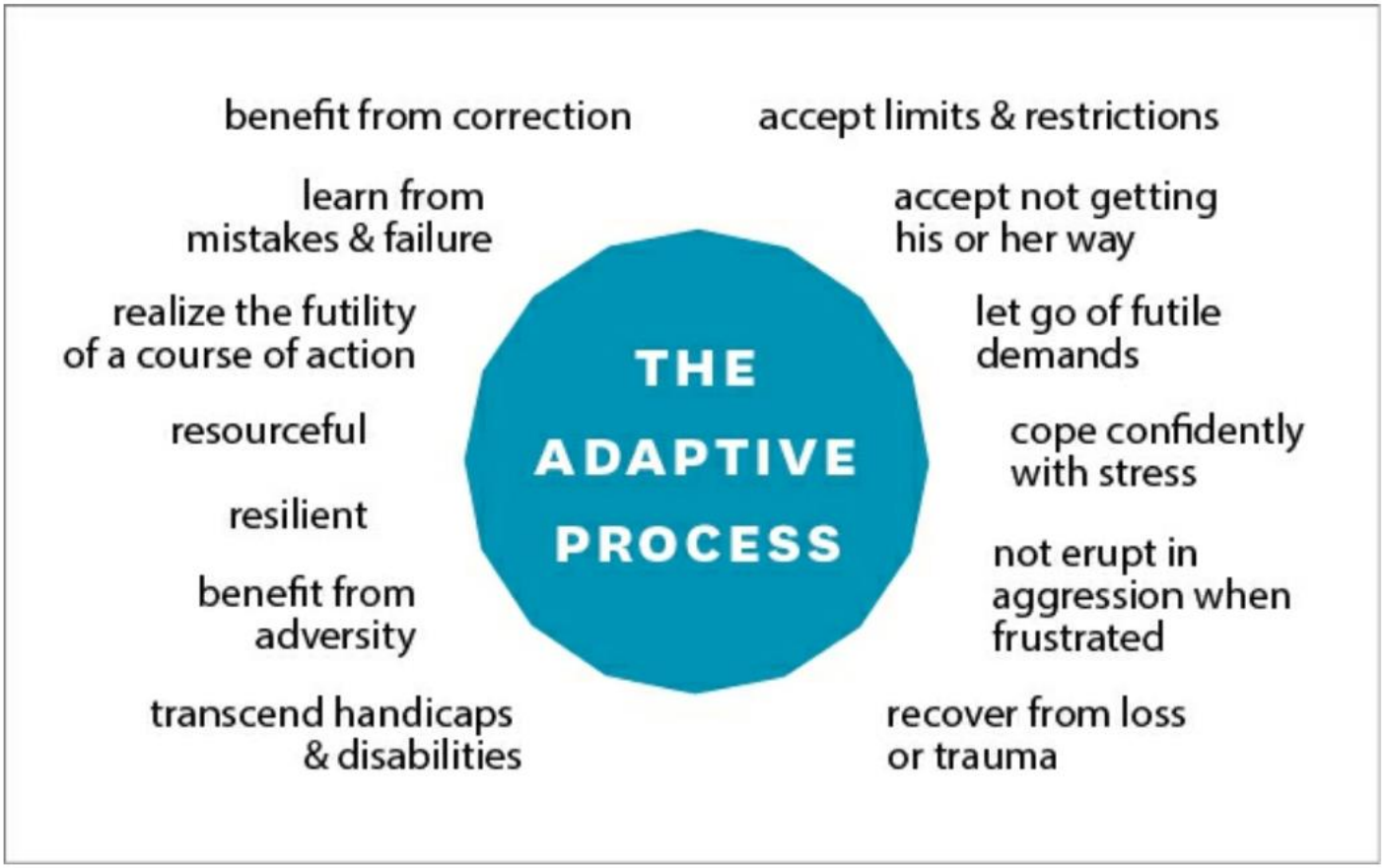


Image taken from Neufeld Intensive I: Making Sense of Kids course

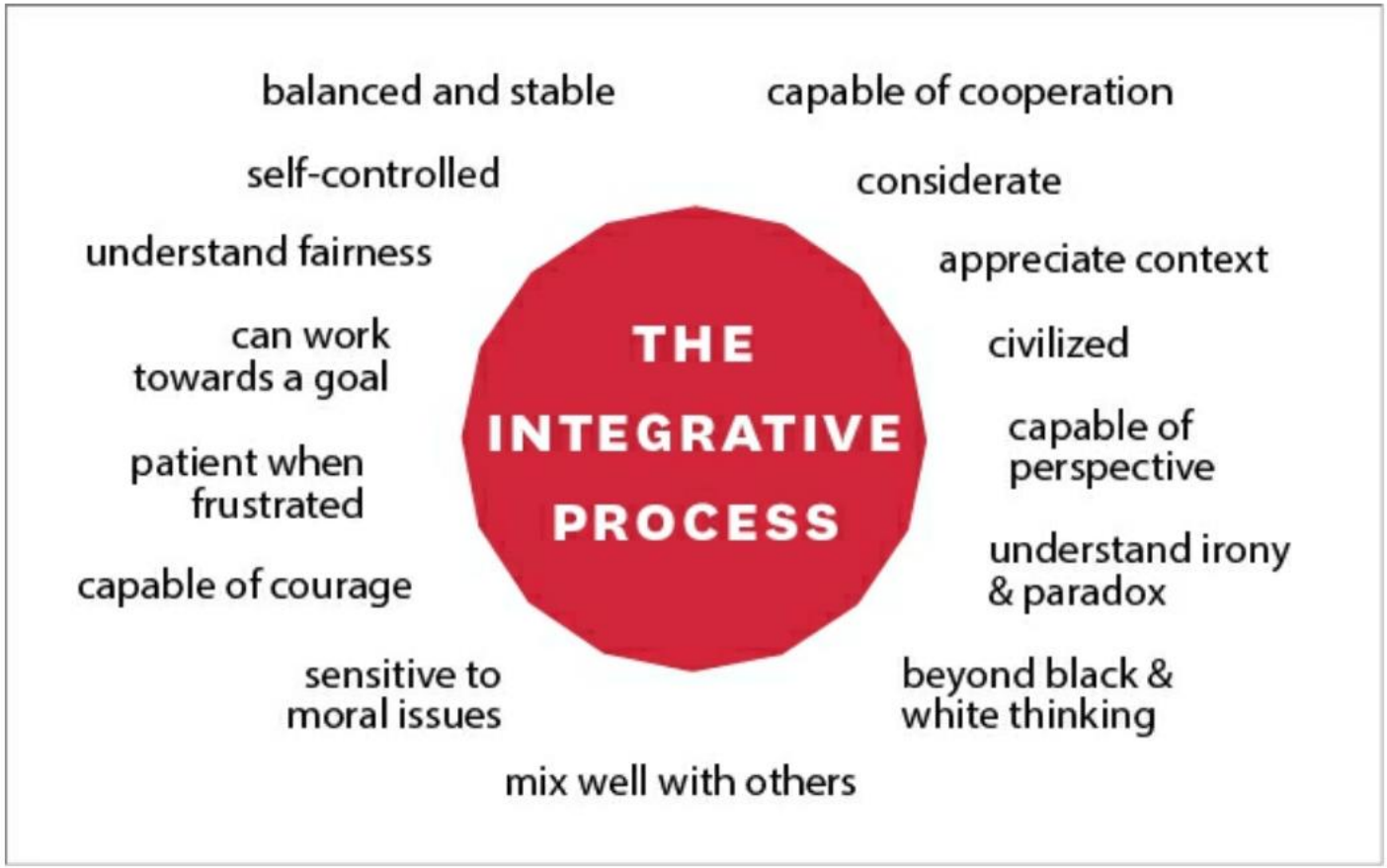


Image taken from Neufeld Intensive I: Making Sense of Kids course

Six Virtues of a Mature Temperament

impulses to react & **caring** about impact = **SELF-CONTROL**

frustration & **caring** feelings = **PATIENCE**

fear of the dragon & **caring** about the treasure = **COURAGE**

concern for self & **caring** for another = **CONSIDERATION**

impulses to get even & **caring** feelings = **FORGIVENESS**

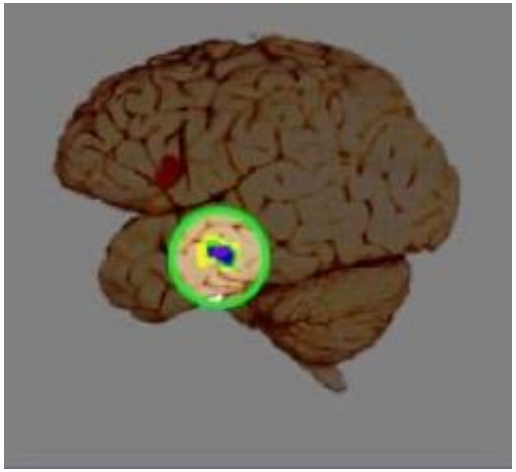
limitations & **caring** enough to make something work = **SACRIFICE**

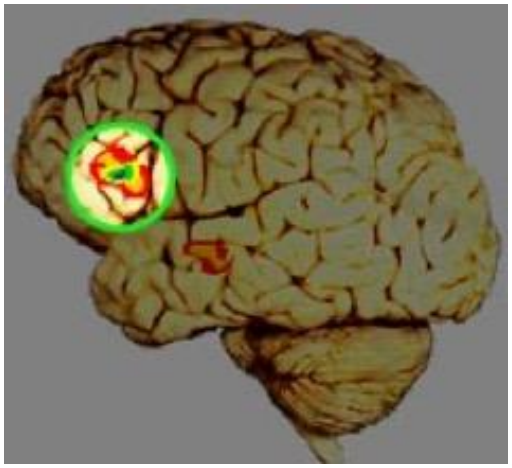
Image taken from Neufeld Intensive I: Making Sense of Kids course

Children in K4-K5 are IMMATURE

Their brains are under construction!

- Young children have an **un**developed pre-frontal cortex, which means their emotions aren't filtered or slowed down
- They can have **only ONE** thought or emotion at a time
- They have great difficulty with perspective because they cannot consider someone else's point of view when they're focused on their own





Immaturity is a NATURAL and NORMAL condition

Growth comes from SAFETY and REST

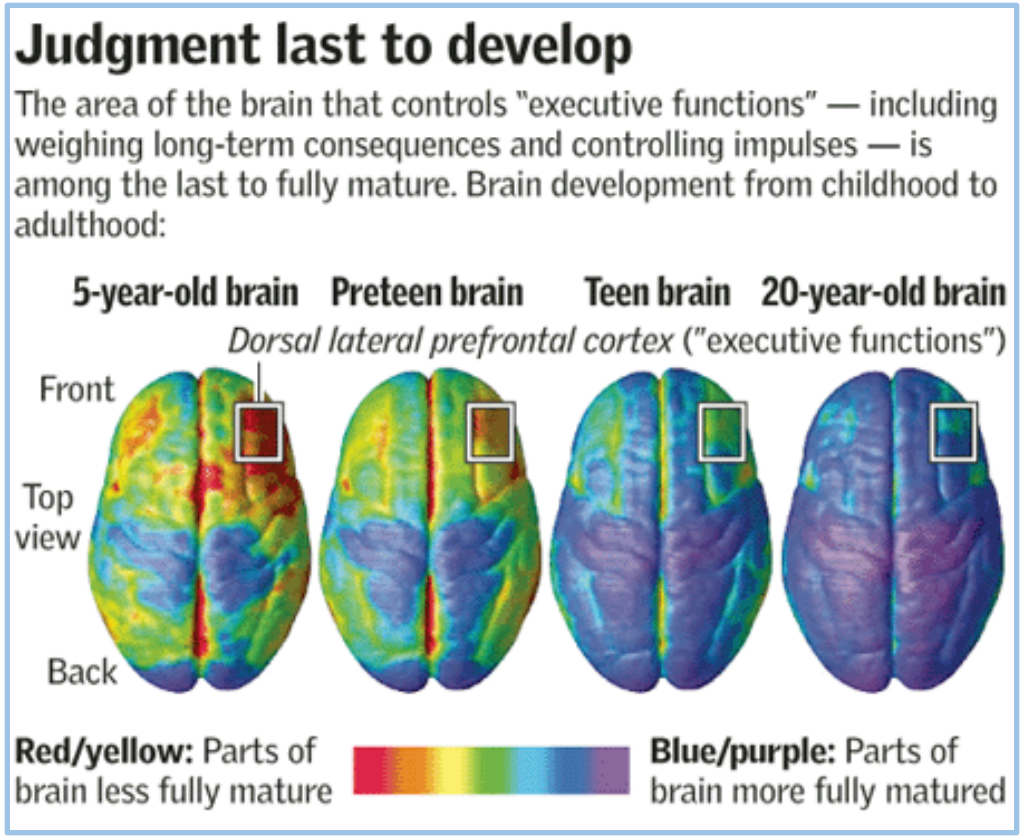


Image from the National Institute of Mental Health; Paul Thompson, Ph.D., UCLA Laboratory of Neuro Imaging

- Maturation is NOT inevitable
- Only in <u>ideal conditions</u> can a child be disposed to maturation (trauma can stint brain development)
- In those conditions the prefrontal cortex debuts its growth between 5-7 years old and continues well into the 20's and 30's
- If a child is **hypersensitive** the 5-7 gap of development will rather be at 7-9 years old

The IMMATURE child has a hard time:

1. Finding information efficiently and quickly (not yet sufficiently developed **Cerebellum**)

2. Seeing the "whole" picture (not yet sufficiently developed **Corpus Callosum**) – difficult communication between the left and right hemispheres of the brain

3. Tempering their instinctual reactions with conflicting thoughts and feelings. (not yet sufficiently developed **Prefrontal Cortex**)

As a result, they often KNOW better but cannot DO better as Emotion overwhelms REASON.

Behaviour will improve when maturation occurs, but this takes time.