

Testimonials from teachers attending my BG101 workshops

Dorothea Bassett has just completed a week in my school delivering the Brain Gym professional learning to staff, home tutors and students. I did my two day course and found what Dorothea had to teach was simply amazing for me.

Her knowledge and presentations are most impressive. You know we all do plenty of professional learning so we have a good handle on what's good and what's not. This was fantastic and I would highly recommend Dorothea Bassett to you all if you are looking for some high quality, different professional learning that will certainly benefit your students and staff, both professionally and personally.

Regards **Michael Jennings**

Principal, Port Hedland School of the Air
Network Principal, WA School of the Air Network

Hi Dorothea,

My name is Maggie T. - I am a school teacher at Castletown Primary school in Esperance and am currently teaching year 2's. I have an autistic boy in my class and also a few children with learning difficulties. I have a basic knowledge of brain gym and have been using it in my room for a few years. I believe it to be very valuable and I have seen the evidence of the success it can bring.

After the course..

Thank you so much for the 4 days in Albany – what a difference it has made.

I have been reviewing what I do in the classroom and introduced the children to PACE and a few of the exercises for writing and comprehension. We have had an awesome week! I introduced them to lazy eights during a printing lesson, we just did 1 letter 'c', along with a lot of warming up with big body movements and white board lazy eights. I have one little lad who has always written the c in his name backwards. I had put a small piece of masking tape with c written on it on his desk. After the printing lesson he peeled the tape off the desk and gave it to me saying "I don't need this now I have the lazy eight trick!" He didn't stop smiling all day and handed his work to me today with a great deal of smiling! (there were a few other reversals but the 'c' was perfect!).

Dorothea, I feel empowered! Not only with learning difficulties in my room, but my own 'stuff' too. I drove from Albany to Jerramungup on the way home! YAY Thank you for your wonderful delivery of Brain Gym 101 – I am very keen to continue with more study with the goal of becoming a Brain Gym teacher.

Of course you can use the testimonial. I have had so much success with the little I am doing. I had 2 parents comment on the change in their children, asking what I had done to them! The teacher assistant who looks after our autistic boy also commented on the improvement saying the kids seem so 'switched on.'

I cannot thank you enough for the fabulous PD.

Kind regards

Maggie

Feed back from another teacher..

Hello, This is Ros Fleahy

Just thought I would give some extra feedback. Many thanks for the 4 day Brain Gym classes. I have found the information really helpful for my class teaching and for myself as a person. the classes really made me look at the 'balance' in my own life and feelings I may have. I have

begun the week with enthusiasm and a determination to have my children in tune with their own ability to learn.

It was amazing today just talking to the children about their 'brain' and what the brain helps with. We had answers like "It helps me move" "It helps me think" "It helps me talk" and this is only my first session with having the children select what they want to learn more about. (and my children are supposed to have learning difficulties -sometimes I wonder who has the difficulties is it the children learning or me teaching)

thanks again Ros Fleay
Teacher Early Intervention, Spencer Park
Education Support Centre

Hello Dorothea,

Many thanks *for your message*. Thank you so much again for coming to Albany to run the Brain Gym 101 course, it was lovely to have met you. It was wonderful to redo Brain Gym 101 again to re-inforce my learning and also see another method of teaching !!
You were wonderful and handled things really well.

It would be great to have a practice day when you return. I am so looking forward to doing my Teachers Practicum now !

Take care.
Kind Regards,
Angela Paratore

Tamara North, a mother of a boy with ASD writes:

I began my journey with brain gym for my child Jacob 4yrs, however soon realised I was in need of it myself. Jacob has improved in such a small space of time, he can see the difference after doing brain gym, he now often rubs his "brain buttons to talk" before he needs to get a point across.
The realisation of a holistic approach has been given another dimension.
I can see Brain Gym being used in some many ways as a nurse, mother, wife, student, sister the list is endless. I am so gratefull Dorothea was able to come and teach us about Brain Gym,
I can't thank her enough, what she has given me & my family is priceless.
Words cannot describe what a difference Brain Gym can do, it is something you have to experience yourself. I am

now an advocate for Brain Gym & will spread the message loud & clear.

thanks Tamara

Hi Dorothea

A quick email to say thank you for your time last weekend. It was also interesting to hear some of your heritage at dinner. I love history and how it can influence us today. The attachment is the pictures of equipment that i showed you at the course with an additional one of the boys using the hopper. I hope you enjoy it.

Whilst we are of no use to you as far as classroom testimonies, I have to say that Daniel is seriously enjoying knowing that there are buttons in his body that he can use to turn on his brain and balance. Whilst he cannot do cross crawl on one leg at a time he can do a modified version of it without lifting his foot off the ground
AND.....he's far better at seeing and twisting than his mum!!!!

Kind Regards
Kim Harper



Writing for Children

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Dear Dorothea,

It was wonderful to speak to you yesterday after so many years.

I was one of the teacher assistants who bounced our way to cheerful alertness ten years ago at the WAATA Annual Conference at Observation City, Scarborough, in 1999 or 2000.

The impression of your exuberance and obvious good health stuck with me all this time.

Later I took the one day course and felt confident enough to help children at risk of developmental delay.

I was entrusted with a group of six children to trial your training.

They were mid-year, in grade two, and way behind their classmates.

All had experienced personal horrors that many adults have never had to endure. They were coming up to seven years old and still not remembering characters or forming letters correctly.

They were battling to read or write while their peers were happily knocking out paragraphs, pages even!

I tailored the Brain Gym sessions to their overall and specific trauma needs.

Four mornings a week for two school terms, my little group joyfully did what they called their 'yoga' before each reading comprehension session of half an hour.

By mid fourth term, all six were reading, writing and acting their comprehension skills.

By the end of the year they were assessed and found to be only six months behind classmates!

One boy was writing whole pages and another couldn't stop at two pages! All six talked more and willingly joined in activities. The teacher was amazed and proud of their progress.

The children's self image and social skills improved dramatically and they were much happier generally.

They felt 'normal' among their classmates and everyone benefitted.

And to cut a long story short,

I now write novels for children and intend to incorporate Brain Gym into my sessions when visiting primary school children in the classroom.

I have had other successes, but this was the most dramatic and highly memorable.

To this end I am making every effort to refresh my skills at this year. Hopefully I will make it.

Until then, yours sincerely, BJ Stuart.

Writing for Children