

Environmental impacts on the brain significant for libraries

- ❑ Toxicity of pesticides developed to damage the brains of insects but not tested for human brain impacts; they are very likely to be toxic to human brains as well – test show that the developing brain of a fetus and young child is the most sensitive and at risk... the cost of limiting pesticides would be lower food crop yields, increased food prices, increases in the amount of farmland needed, further habitat destruction and could outlaw 85% of the pesticides currently used (a development in the EU)
- ❑ Toxins in food such as mercury and lead linked to development issues and later disabilities in unborn children – called the “silent pandemic” of neurodevelopment due to low level exposure during pregnancy ... disorders include autism, ADD, mental retardation, cerebral palsy, erosion of the IQ and behavior issues (Philippe Grandjean studies)
- ❑ By identifying what causes disorders like autism we can broaden the current paradigm of diagnosis and treatment to include treatment likely to trough treating the body systems impacted by the environment ie.. Gastrointestinal and immune systems
- ❑ 1 in 6 children have a developmental disability
- ❑ there are at least 202 chemicals known to the capacity to damage the brain, effects of these at low levels are unknown these chemicals are found in daily items such as aluminum saucepans and soft drink cans, acetone in nail polish remover and ethylene glycol in antifreeze but chemical exposure is at manufacture when chemicals seep into ground water, are carried air born or contaminate food having worldwide effects
- ❑ Sustainable building practices reduce pollution of the air, soil and water
- ❑ PCBs and PVCs linked the brain function disorders
- ❑ Little children up their toys in their months an average of 20 times an hour
- ❑ Purchase classic items to stay clear of chemical exposure – unpainted wood, videos, books, stuffed animals and athletic equipment.. resource heathytoys.org
- ❑ Exposure to the natural environment linked to positive mental health, learning and brain development – be close to nature may help people concentrate, improves the behavior of children with attention disorders and boosts test scores – yet there seems to be less time for the outdoors (Biophilia book argues that humans have a deep genetic need for contact with nature)
- ❑ People learn more when content is placed in a larger frame work for long-term memory or daily to be stored in the brain’s short-term memory