

GROW GREAT GRADES WITH GREENERY

Can a green campus actually impact learning and success? Research says *yes*. Studies in child development and student achievement tells us that trees and green spaces play an important role in the school experience and levels of academic success.

ENCOURAGE IMAGINATION

On a school site, trees create spaces where children can create their own play environments: The “roof” of branches becomes a fort, space station, etc. Leaves and twigs, can be used to create toys. On a treeless campus, children will play physical games like tag, but not engage in the quiet imaginative play that is central to their social and emotional lives.¹

BETTER TEST PERFORMANCE

A study of third-grade math and reading scores from 905 schools in Massachusetts found that academic achievement as measured by the state standardized test correlated positively with the greenness of school campuses and the surrounding areas.²

FOCUSED ATTENTION

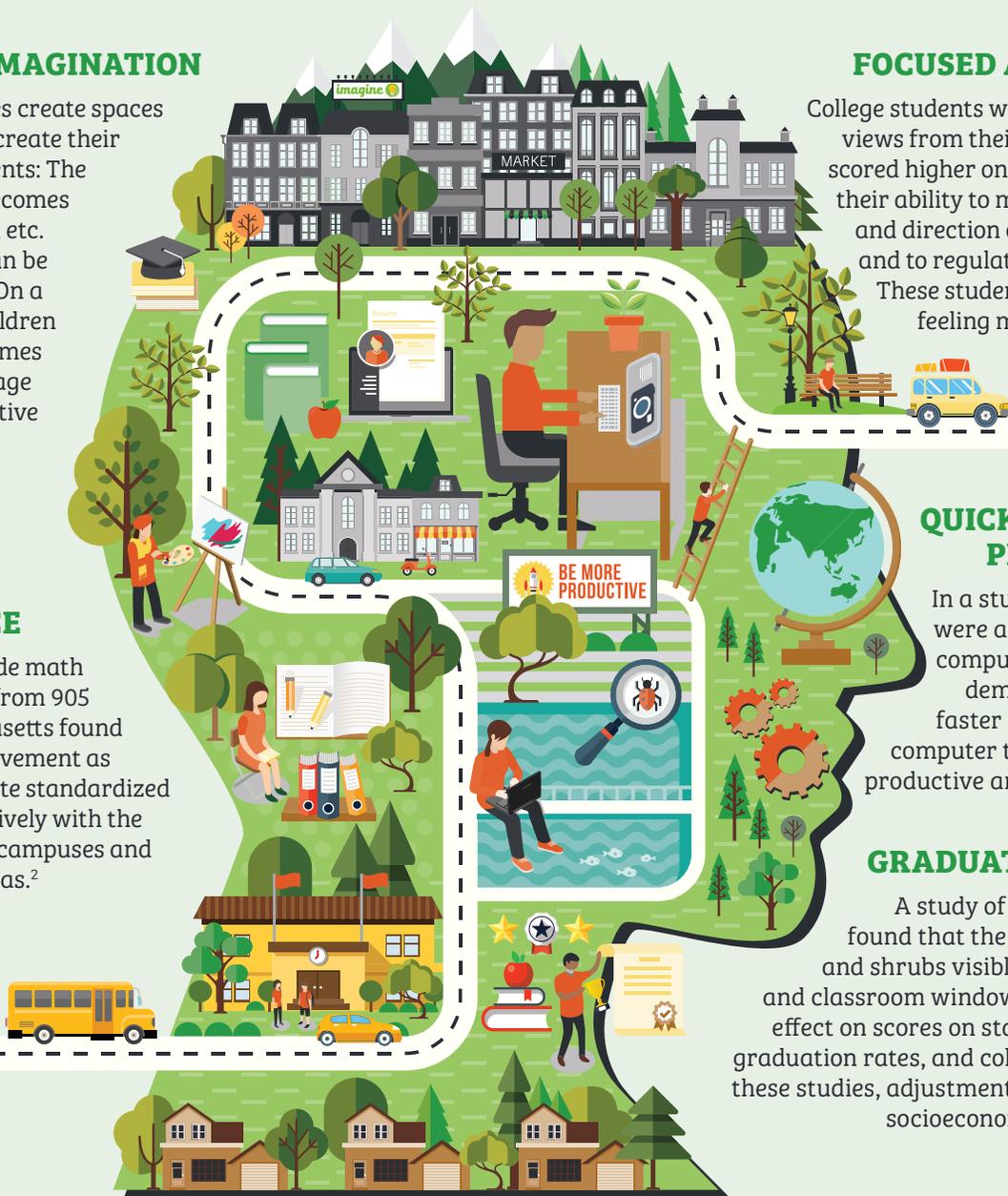
College students with more natural views from their dorm windows scored higher on tests measuring their ability to manage the focus and direction of their thoughts and to regulate their emotions. These students also reported feeling more productive.³

QUICKER & MORE PRODUCTIVE

In a study where plants were added to a college computer lab, students demonstrated a 12% faster reaction time on computer tasks, were more productive and less stressed.⁴

GRADUATION RATES

A study of 101 high schools found that the number of trees and shrubs visible from cafeteria and classroom windows had a positive effect on scores on standardized tests, graduation rates, and college plans. In all these studies, adjustments were made for socioeconomic differences.⁵



Literature Cited:

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3. Tennessen, C. M. & Cimprich, B. 1995 “Views to Nature: Effects on Attention,” *Journal of Environmental Psychology* 15, no. 1: 77-85.
4. Lohr, V.I., Pearson-Mims, C.H. & Goodwin, G.K. 1996. “Interior Plants May Improve Worker Productivity & Reduce Stress in a Windowless Environment” *Journal of Environmental Horticulture* 14:97-100.
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