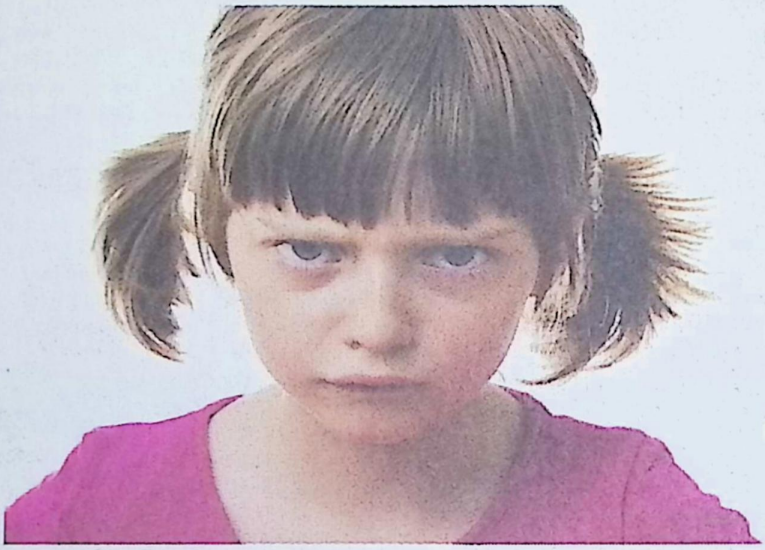
Anger makes people want things more

Anger is an interesting emotion for psychologists. On the one hand, it's negative, but then it also has some of the features of positive emotions. For a new study published in Psychological Science, researchers find that associating an object with anger actually makes people want the object—a kind of motivation that's normally associated with positive emotions.



The anger face is a constellation of features, each of which makes a person appear physically stronger.

For example, it activates an area on the left side of the brain that is associated with many positive emotions. And, like positive emotions, it can motivate people to go after something. "People are motivated to do something or obtain a certain object in the world because it's rewarding for them. Usually this means that the object is positive and makes you happy," writes Henk Aarts of Utrecht University in the Netherlands, first author of the new study.

Electric current to brain boosts memory

Stimulating a particular region in the brain via non-invasive delivery of electrical current using magnetic pulses, called Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation, improves memory, according to a new Northwestern Medicine study.

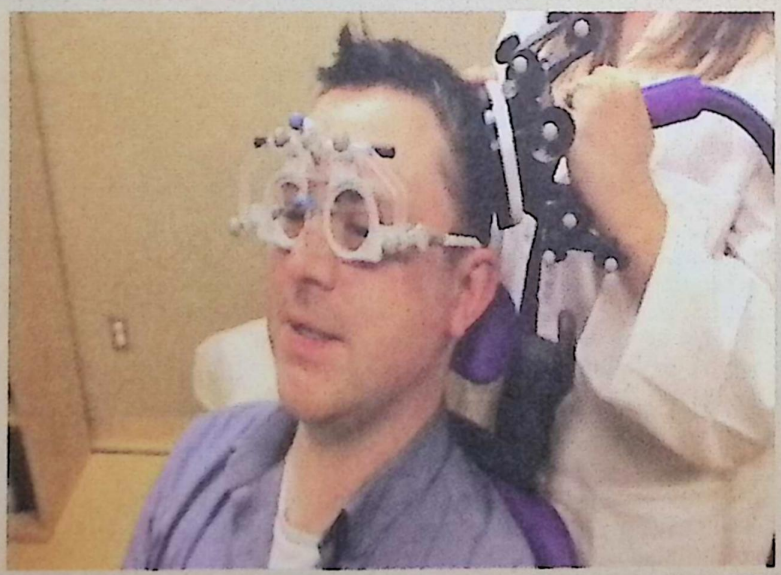


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The discovery opens a new field of possibilities for treating memory impairments caused by conditions such as stroke, early-stage Alzheimer's disease, traumatic brain injury, cardiac arrest and the memory problems that occur in healthy aging.

"We show for the first time that you can specifically change memory functions of the brain in adults without surgery or drugs, which have not proven effective," writes senior author Joel Voss, assistant professor of medical social sciences at Northwestern University. "This noninvasive stimulation improves the ability to learn new things. It has tremendous potential for treating memory disorders."

The study was published August 29 in Science.