A Pathfinder for Zen Meditation, Readings & Resources for Beginners: A Companion to the Atlanta Soto Zen Center Library

Created by Zena Patton, the Mindful Research Group's sole member, the pathfinder is targeted to users new to the Atlanta Soto Zen Center (ASZC) library. It will also target new to Zen-based mindfulness meditation and strategies to deal with life's challenges and stress. "The domain knowledge of the users ranges from medium to high: Novice practitioners of meditation generally have little knowledge of meditation but may have some knowledge of coping mechanisms for dealing with stress, for instance." (Patton, 2020). The pathfinder will be installed in the library at the Atlanta Soto Zen Center (ASZC). The ASZC library is located in a small room and contains a little over 1500 books of non-fiction subjects in "general self-help, meditation, stress management, personal growth, and spiritual growth." (Patton, 2020).

Gorichanaz & Latham (2019) assert an increase of information seeking for contemplative aims over epistemological aims. The investigators define contemplative aims "as what a person seeks to achieve through contemplation" (para. 21). Dyer (2012) describes the success that publishers are experiencing with an increase in readers' interest in contemplative subjects such as meditation and yoga. Meditation is one of the contemplative practices that the pathfinder aims to orient new users. A user survey was distributed, and respondents were asked an open-ended question: *Please provide feedback about any of the services offered by the Atlanta Soto Zen Center. Services include events, facilities, the library, programs, meditation services, etc.* The open-ended question item revealed that new users were unaware that the zen center had a library in a room adjacent to the meditation room (Patton, 2020). Therefore, the pathfinder was created to orient new users to the contemplative items in the library. The pathfinder also supplements the library items with links to web content and programming at Atlanta Soto Zen Center.

The Zen Resources Pathfinder (short name) will be marketed on the Atlanta Soto Zen Center website. The pathfinder is created on the Google site platform to allow for easy access and sharing. A handout with a link and the QR code to the pathfinder will be available on the shelves, next to the library's checkout system. The pathfinder's home page welcomes users and describes the purpose of the instruction; the pathfinder consists of the following pages of information and resources: Links to Zen-based mindfulness and mindfulness meditation adult reader's advisory; Links to evidence-based Mindfulness-Based Cognitive Therapy (MBCT) resources for coping skills and resilience building; Zen meditation and general meditation virtual programming resources to address the current pandemic environment of COVID-19.

The pathfinder is evaluated on how easy and quickly users can find the information they were looking for on the site (pathfinder). Also, there is a question item about the user's perception of the reliability of the information they are receiving. The site survey is located on the last page of the pathfinder. The <u>Site Survey</u> contains six five-point Likert scale questions and one open-ended question item that asks for general comments on what improvements are needed for the site. The survey question items' validity was addressed by extracting question items from the *Website feedback survey template* provided by an industry-leading survey tool,

Surveymonkey.com (2020).

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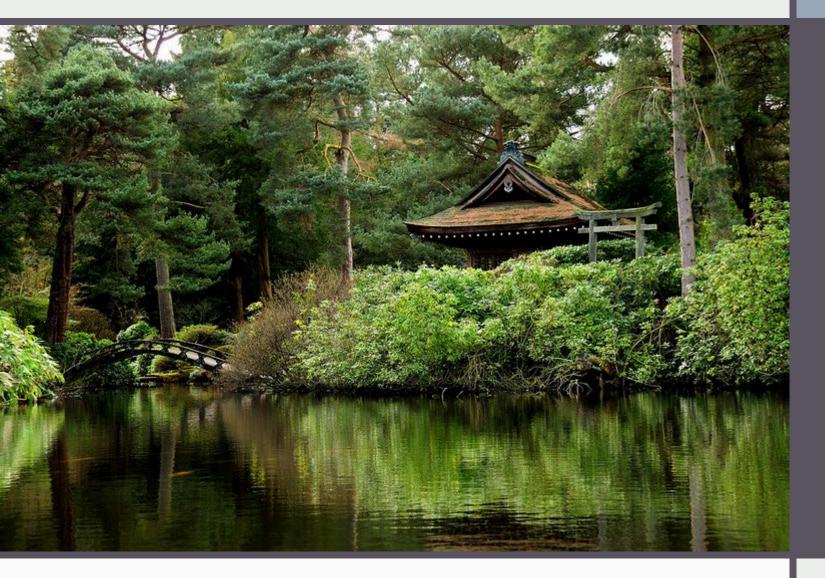
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A PATHFINDER FOR ZEN MEDITATION, READINGS & RESOURCES FOR BEGINNERS

A Companion to the Atlanta Soto Zen Center Library

By Zena Patton of the Mindful Research Group for INFO 5600, Fall 2020 @UNT

A Brief

Description of

Service and

Setting

- Created by Zena Patton who is the sole member of the Mindful Research Group, this pathfinder is targeted to users new to the Atlanta Soto Zen Center (ASZC) library.
- It will also target those who are new to Zen-based mindfulness meditation and strategies to deal with life's challenges and stress. "The domain knowledge of the users ranges from medium to high: Novice practitioners of meditation generally have little knowledge of meditation but may have some knowledge of coping mechanisms for dealing with stress, for instance." (Patton, 2020).
- The pathfinder will be installed in the library at the Atlanta Soto Zen Center (ASZC). The ASZC library is located in a small room and contains a little over 1500 books of non-fiction subjects in "general self-help, meditation, stress management, personal growth, and spiritual growth." (Patton, 2020).

Learning

Outcomes of

Service

Users of the pathfinder will employ the following Bloom (1956) taxonomy levels of learning:

- <u>Select (Understand) mindfulness and</u> mindfulness meditation items in the catalog.
- <u>Identify</u> (Understand) evidence-based mindfulness techniques.
- <u>Use (Apply)</u> the Atlanta Soto Zen Center website to find events and programs to support their practice.

Click link for

Pathfinder.

Screenshots in

Following

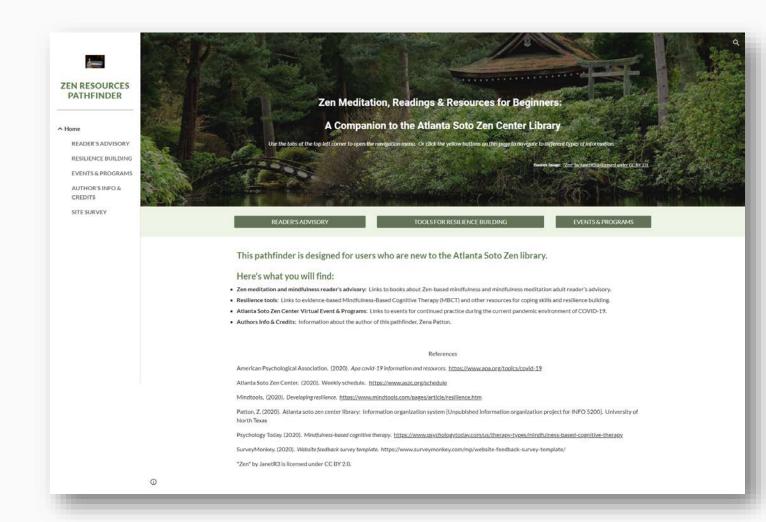
Slides

https://sites.google.com/vie

w/zen-resources-

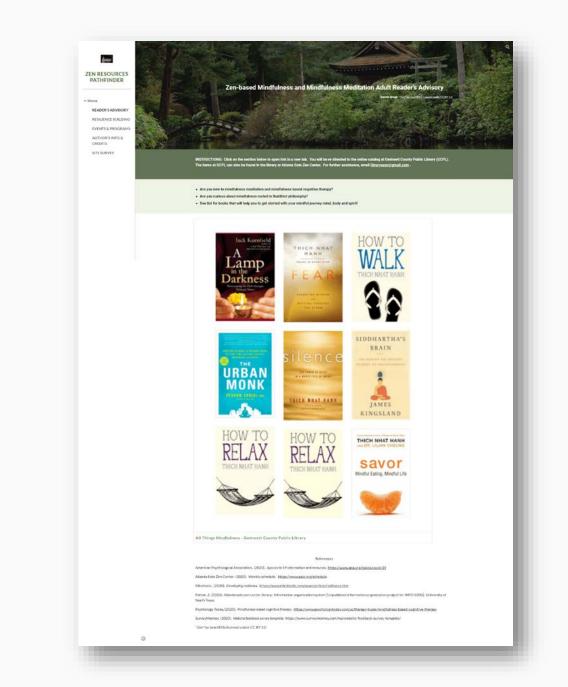
pathfinder/home

Home Page



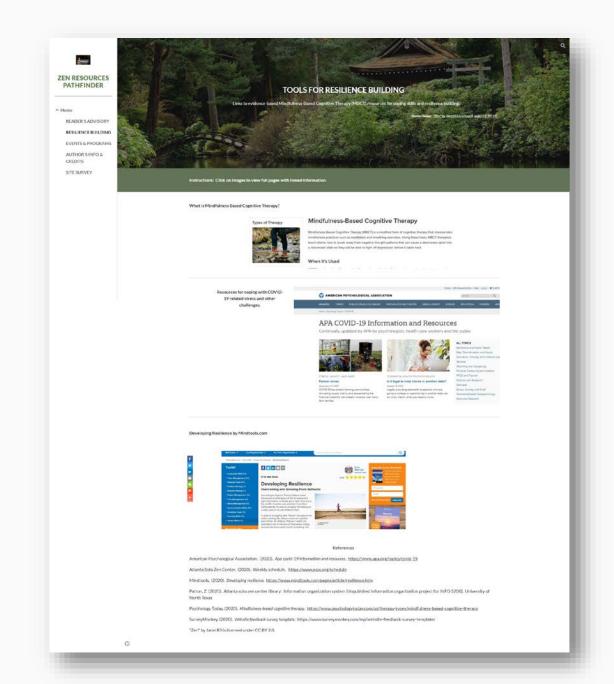
Reader's

Advisory



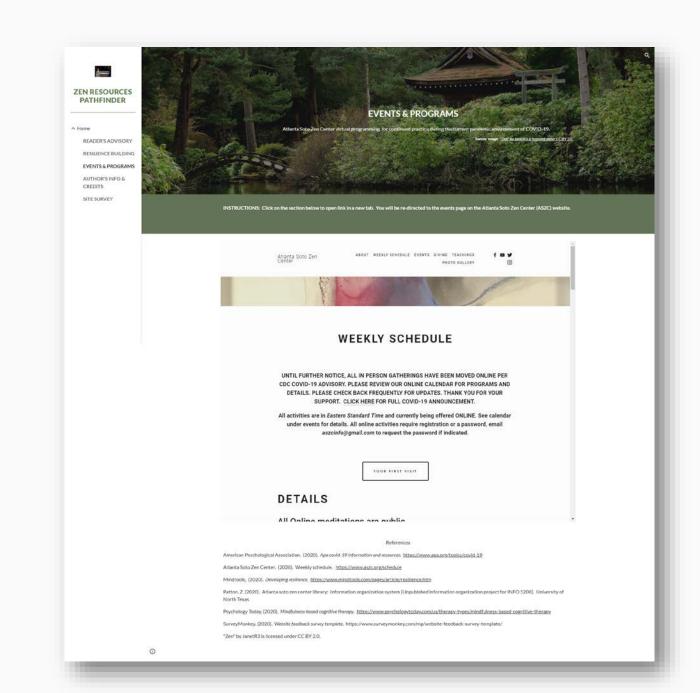
Resilience

Building



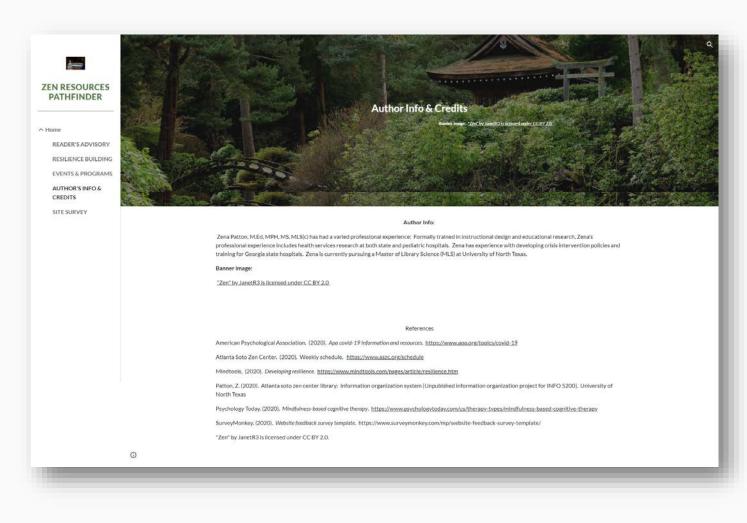
Events &

Programs

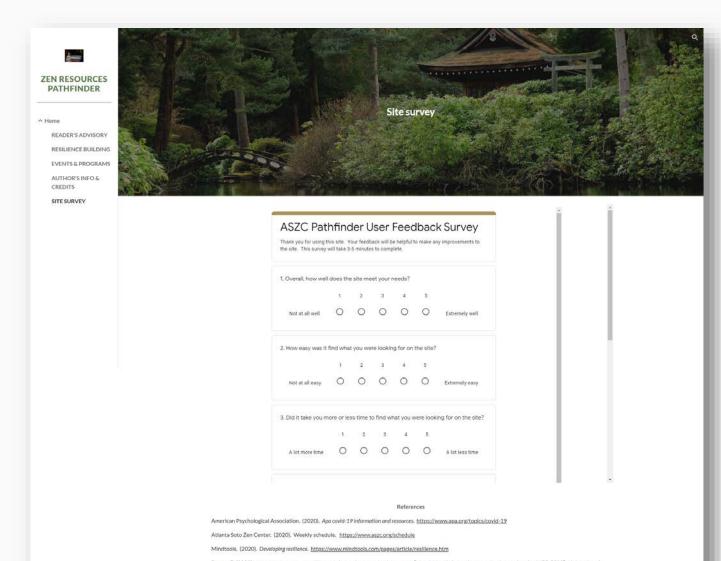


Author's Info

& Credits



Site Survey



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