

Centre of the Cell's 'STEM Pod' Challenge

The Brain

What does the human brain do?

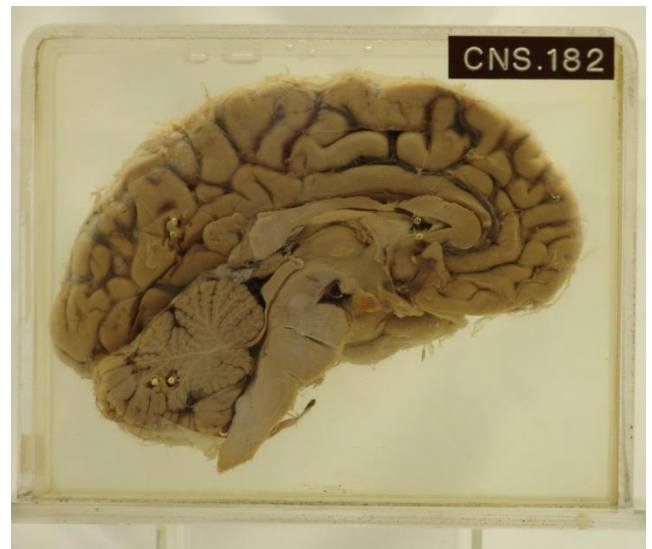
Our brains are like a computer - they control how we think, react, move and they store our memory! The brain receives information from all over our body, processes it, then makes a decision on what to do based on that information.

How big is the human brain?

The weight of a newborn baby's brain is about 350-400g. The weight of an adult's brain is much bigger, it's about 1300-1400g!

Did you know...

Our brain is about 80% liquid! So it's very important that you drink lots of water to keep the brain hydrated so it can work properly.



How similar is the human brain to an animal's brain?

The brain in both humans and animals is very important for controlling movement, thinking and sensing our environment. However, humans have a very unique brain as we have the special ability to speak and write!

Let us know how your
challenge goes on social media
@CentreoftheCell!

The Structure of the Brain

The brain is divided into different parts - four **lobes**, the **brainstem** and the **cerebellum**. Each part has a different job.

Frontal Lobe

Controls judgment, emotions and decision making

Parietal Lobe

Controls language and touch

Temporal Lobe

Controls memory, learning and hearing

Occipital Lobe

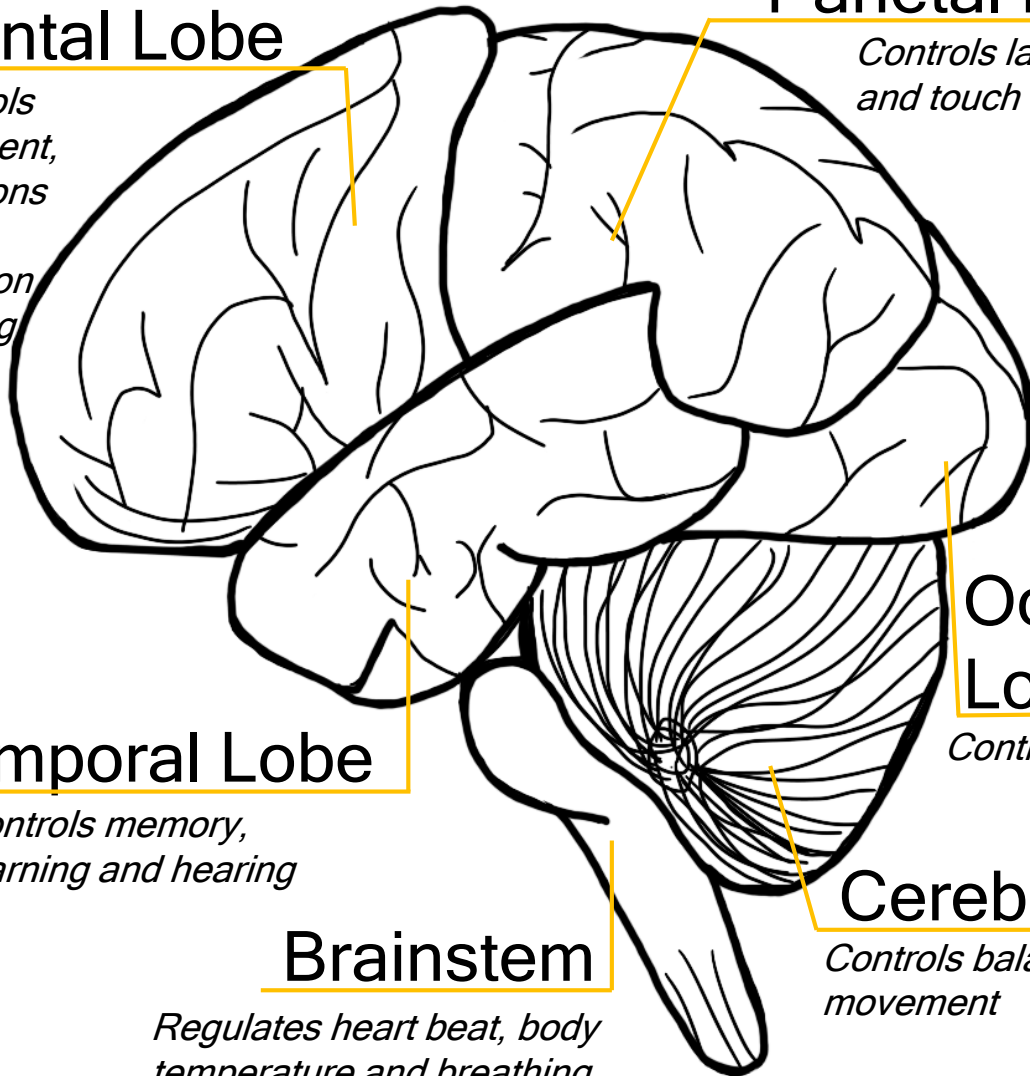
Controls vision

Brainstem

Regulates heart beat, body temperature and breathing

Cerebellum

Controls balance and movement



You can print out this worksheet, or trace the image to colour in the brain!

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Memory Test Activity

In this activity you will be testing who in your household has the best memory, and learn some tricks on how to improve your memory!

What you will need:

15-20 random objects, a large cloth, paper, pen

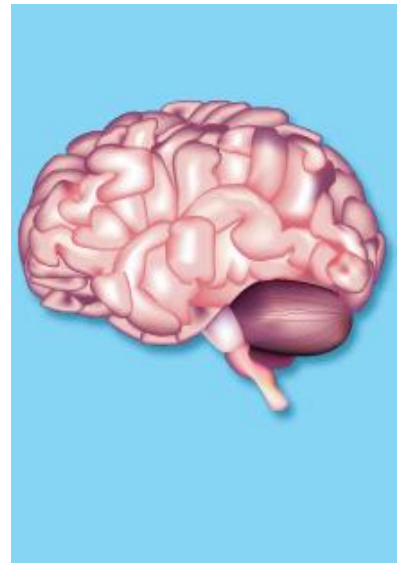
Instructions:

1. Gather all your random objects and put them on the floor
2. Tell your participants to look at the objects and to try really hard to remember as many objects as they can
3. After **1 minute**, quickly cover your objects with the cloth so they can't be seen anymore
4. Ask your participants to write down as many objects as they can remember.

Who remembered the most objects?

Tricks to improve your memory:

- **Chaining:** Link items together by thinking of images that connect them. E.g. to remember glasses and a pen, imagine yourself balancing your glasses on your pen.
- **Catchy Phrases:** Think of a phrase where the first letter of each word is the same as your items. E.g. I remember the order of the colours of the rainbow by saying 'Richard Of York Gave Battle In Vain' (Red, Yellow, Orange, Green, Blue, Indigo, Violet)



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