

UNIT 6 - NERVOUS SYSTEM / SPECIAL SENSES

Activity - It's Not Brain Surgery

Surgical Team _____

- Materials:
- Orange
 - Plastic Knife
 - Toothpicks
 - Raisins
 - Gum Drop
 - Mike & Ike's

Preparation: Carefully slice off a thin section of one side of the orange. This will become the "bottom" of your brain and will be the spot on which to sit the brain on the "operating table."

Surgical Procedure:

1. Carefully peel the skull from the brain.
2. The brain now shows the cerebral cortex. What is its function?

3. Using broken toothpicks, make two eyes using raisins. Describe how the eyes "see" in relation to the hemispheres of the brain. You may need to consult with your text.

4. Using your knife, carefully cut the corpus callosum without cutting your brain in half. Only cut down about 1/2 inch. What is the job of the corpus callosum?

5. Using 4 raisins on a toothpick, attach a brain stem in the lower portion. What behaviors does the brain stem monitor?

6. Directly above the brain stem, attach a gum drop divided in half for the cerebellum. It should be on either side of the brain stem. What is the function of the cerebellum?

7. Now, divide the brain into lobes. Mark the following using the colored toothpicks.
- a. OCCIPITAL- green
 - b. FRONTAL- red
 - c. PARIETAL- yellow
 - d. TEMPORAL- blue

What functions or behaviors accompany each of the lobes?

A. Occipital:

B. Frontal:

C. Parietal:

D. Temporal:

8. Using the original cut of the corpus callosum, cut a perpendicular line into the brain, removing a section of the right hemisphere.

9. Using the oblong jellies, cut the green one in half. Place it as the thalamus. What is its job?

Cut a red one in half. Place it as the hypothalamus. What is its function?

10. Once you have completed your surgery, I will need to offer my professional opinion on the results. Please notify me when you are ready for my consult. Upon my approval, you may snack on any part of the brain you wish!

Clean up your table and put all supplies back where you got them.

Turn in your worksheet!