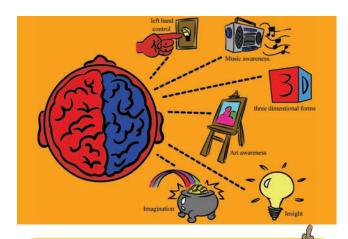


The brain stem tells your body to do all the things you need to do to live—breathe, pump blood, sleep, wake up, and digest food. Most of the time, you don't even know it's doing all that work! Your brain stem is only 3 inches long. Can you find it?

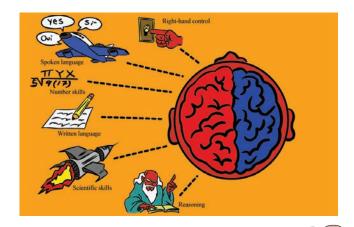
The brain stem is in the back, just above where the head and the neck join.





The right half of your brain is your artistic side. This is where your talent for painting or drawing comes from. The right half of the brain also controls movement on the left side of the body.





The left half of your brain is your thinking side. This is where your talent for math and talking comes from. The left half of the brain also controls movement on the right side of the body.





Cerebellum means "little brain."
The cerebellum helps you jump, walk, play ball, and pick things up.
It controls all of your movements and balance. Your cerebellum is the reason you don't fall over all the time!

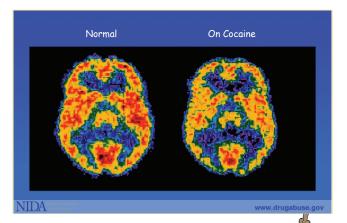




The limbic system is a special spot deep inside the brain. The limbic system is where your emotions live. Can you name some emotions? Memories also live in the limbic system.

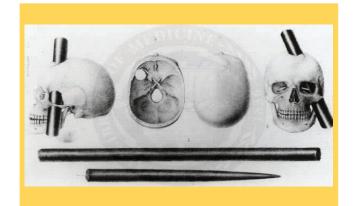
There are many emotions, like happiness, sadness, anger, embarrassment, and joy.





PET scans are special pictures of the brain. These pictures let doctors and scientists look inside a person's brain. In this picture, red shows the parts of the brain that are working hardest. The brain on cocaine has fewer red spots! What do you think that means?



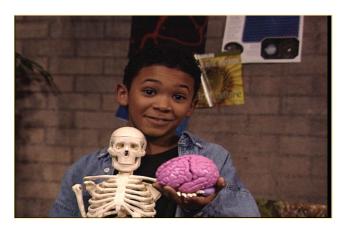


Phineas Gage worked on the railroads.

He was in a terrible accident. A railroad track exploded, and a spike entered his brain. Phineas lived, but he became a different person. He went from being nice to being nasty. Why do you think this happened?

The spike damaged Phineas' brain—probably part of the limbic system, which controls emotions.





Meet Juan, a member of the Brain
Power! Club. Juan's club name is "Brain
Wave." When there's a mission for the
club, Juan is always the first in line.
Juan's favorite things to do are riding
his skateboard and completing missions
from the NIDA Junior Scientists
Mission Control Center!





Here's Beth, a member of the Brain Power! Club. Beth's club name is Brain Storm! Beth uses her imagination to help complete the missions. Beth's favorite thing to do is to daydream about being a scientist someday!