

Student Instruction Sheet

Module 6: How Drugs Affect the Brain

1. It's time to pull all your ideas together and figure out exactly what you learned about how different drugs affect the brain.
2. Look at all the materials laid out on the table. They are from the first five modules you worked on. Begin by observing the materials and describing them. Then discuss the high points of each module with the class.
3. Your teacher will assign you to a group. With your teammates, develop a few conclusions that bring together what you learned during the *Brain Power!* program. If you need some ideas, your teacher can give you an example. Then write your group's conclusions on your log sheet.
4. Now see if your knowledge of the brain can be applied to materials you did not study. Your teacher will give half the groups fact sheets on cocaine and alcohol, and half the groups fact sheets on marijuana and nicotine. Your mission is to figure out how these drugs affect the brain and the nervous system. See if what you find out supports your conclusions about what you have learned.
5. After learning about the new substances, think about how to present your ideas to the class. You may use your model of the brain or the neurotransmission simulation game. Perhaps your group would like to develop a skit, make a poster, or write a comic strip. Anything goes! Have fun, and focus on something interesting and original. Make sure you tell the class whether your research proved or disproved your conclusions.

6. When it's your group's turn, give your presentation to the class. Then discuss how cocaine, marijuana, alcohol, and nicotine affect the brain and the nervous system.
7. There's one more thing to do. If you could tell your family and friends one idea about the *Brain Power!* program, what would it be? Write down your thoughts in a paragraph or describe them on a poster.
8. **CONGRATULATIONS! YOU HAVE JUST COMPLETED THE LAST MODULE IN THE *BRAIN POWER!* PROGRAM.**

Put the last piece in the puzzle poster to receive your diploma.