

Student Learning Plan

Unit 3: Foundations for Success

Brain Structure and Function [U3C2L1]



What you will accomplish in this lesson:

Relate the structure and function of the brain to the learning process



Why this lesson is important:

Many people never totally discover or exert the full potential of their brain. Its structure and function is an amazing part of human anatomy. In this learning plan, you will explore current research on the structure of the brain and how it works. You will learn practical ways to apply complex concepts that can help put you in control of your own mind.



What you will learn in this lesson:

- Identify key areas and function of the midbrain/limbic system
- Associate major regions of the brain to their functions
- Explain the function of a neuron
- Explain the three elements involved in transmitting stimulus from outside the body to the brain
- Describe ways to improve memory retrieval
- Define key words: axon, brain stem, cerebral hemisphere, cortex, dendrite, limbic system, neural plasticity, neurons, neurotransmitter, sensory flooding, sensory gating, synapse



You will have successfully met this lesson's purpose:

- by creating a map of the brain and its functions
- when the map is divided into major regions of the brain
- when the map includes functions of each brain region
- when the map relates an external stimulus or activity to the region of the brain it affects



Learning Activities:

These learning activities are designed to help you learn the target skills and knowledge for this lesson. Your instructor may assign additional or alternative learning activities.

INQUIRE PHASE: What do you already know?



- ____1. THINK ABOUT how your emotions can affect your ability to learn. PREPARE for this lesson by discussing *What you will accomplish in this lesson; What you will learn in this lesson; Why this lesson is important*, and *When you will have successfully met this lesson's purpose*.
- ____2. VIEW the video, "Secret Discovery No.1 – Brain Structures and Functions" about how different parts of your brain affect your ability to learn. PARTICIPATE in a class discussion on "Rules to Learn By."
- ____3. REFLECT on the emotional climate of your learning experiences. ANSWER the reflection questions presented by your instructor.

GATHER PHASE: So, what else do you need to know or learn?



- _____1. With your team, JIGSAW the student text on your assigned topic. CREATE a Tree Map that explains your topic and PRESENT it to the class.
- _____2. REFLECT on what you learned about the different parts of the brain. ANSWER the reflection questions presented by your instructor.

PROCESS PHASE: Now what can you do with this new information you've learned?



- _____1. Work with your team to CREATE a list of ways to remember/learn various tasks presented by your instructor. PRESENT your list to the class.
- _____2. REFLECT on the different strategies your brain gives you for learning new things. ANSWER the reflection questions presented by your instructor.



Assessment Activities:

APPLY PHASE: What else can you do with what you've learned today?



- _____1. COMPLETE the Brain Structure and Function Performance Assessment Task. SUBMIT your completed performance assessment task to your instructor for feedback and a grade.
- _____2. REVIEW the key words of this lesson.
- _____3. REFLECT on what you have learned in this lesson and how you might use it in the future.



Self-Paced Learning and Assessment Activities:

Independently complete the activities outlined below:

1. **Inquire Phase:** Complete the Learning Activities 1 – 3 or as modified by your instructor.
2. **Gather Phase:** Complete the Learning Activities 1 – 2 or as modified by your instructor.
3. **Process Phase:** Complete the Learning Activities 1 – 2 or as modified by your instructor.
4. **Apply Phase:** Complete the Learning Activities 1 – 3 as modified by your instructor.