

Curriculum Area	Art & Design	Activity Type	Practical
Suitable for	KS 2 & 3	Activity Number	BB02
Activity Name	Thinking Cap		



Diagram above and activity courtesy of Dr Eric H.Chudler - University of Washington, USA

Learning Outcome:

Understand that the brain consists of different areas that are used for different purposes, and what it looks like.

Materials Required:

- Balloons or chicken wire
- Paste
- Newspapers
- Paints

Instructions:

First, create the brain shape for the cap. You can create a shape from wire (e.g., chicken wire) or a balloon or use a bowl to build your cap around. You could even roll up some newspaper and cover it with masking tape. The form should have the approximate size and shape of your head so you can wear it.

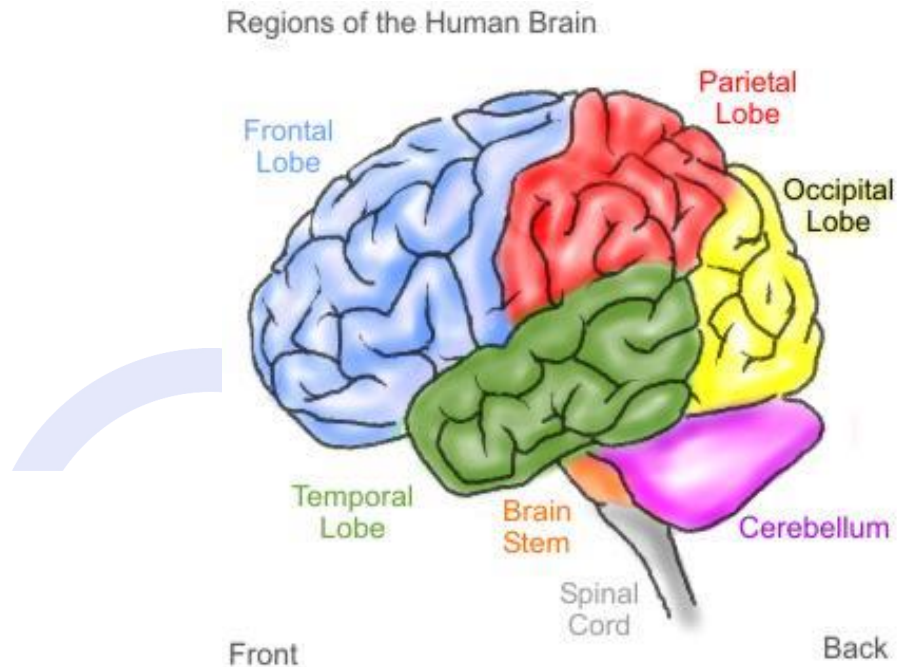
Create the Structure: Cut strips of newspaper and glue them to the form using papier-mâché paste.

Coat the newspaper strips with the paste, and place them on the form. Let each newspaper layer dry before you add a new layer. Add enough layers to give you a strong structure. When the structure is dry, remove the

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underlying form. You may have to cut the edges of the structure and repair the sides for a good fit on your head.

Paint the dried cap using the diagram on page 2. Also refer to Information Pack for explanations of the functions of each area of the brain.



Additional discussion:

1. Do all the parts do the same thing?
2. What do the different parts do?
3. What would happen if only one part was damaged? Would the other parts still work?
4. Which part of the brain is most likely to get damaged? Why?
5. What can we do to protect the brain from getting damaged? (Link to activity BB05 Shake up Your Brain, BB014 Design a Helmet, BB015 Head Protection)