



Are Bigger Brains Better? (🧠 A Brain Facts Story)
(1st – 6-7 yrs.)
Worksheet: Putting It All Together



STORY CONNECTION-SLIDE 17 (Approx Time: 10-15mins)

The bigger and bumpier brains mean that the animal can do more behaviors. It does not mean that the animal is smarter – they just do more behaviors. All animals have a brain (nervous system) because the brain keeps the animal alive. When animals do more behaviors, like reading, writing, and playing video games, they need a bigger brain. Because humans cannot have HUGE heads (or they would fall over all the time), they have bumpier brains – which would make them even bigger. So...bigger AND bumpier brains are better for an animal IF they want to do more behaviors. Behaviors can be lots of fun!!! Doing lots of behaviors helps your brain stay healthy and that is SPECTacular!!!

Materials needed:

- Brain tree map for student(s) (1 per student-included below) or blank paper
- Pencils
- Chart paper or white board
- Markers

Preparation needed:

- Create a large tree map for display and to model for student(s).
- Determine if student(s) will use Brain Tree Map template (print) or blank paper.

Instructions:

1. Student(s) will practice what they have learned in this story by completing a tree map. A tree map is a Thinking Map used to organize information. The tree map and be completed individually or together as a group.
2. Display a large tree map on the chart paper or on the board (use template as model).
3. Give each student a Brain tree map handout or have them make a chart on a blank piece of paper.
4. Begin by asking student(s) to share what they know about the brain.
Suggested Questions:
 - What can it do?
 - What is it like?
 - What does a brain have?
5. As the student(s) respond, add those ideas to the large tree map.
***NOTE: See sample answers below. Accept all answers that are correct and reasonable. Answers should reflect understanding of the text and context of the story. ***
6. Student(s) will complete their personal tree maps as you go.

7. When the tree map is complete, model for the student(s) how to write 1-2 sentences using their tree map. Samples are included below.
8. Student(s) will write their own 1-2 sentences about the brain using the information from their chart.



The Brain

Can	Is	Has



The Brain

Can	Is	Has
Do behaviors	bumpy	bumps
Keep animals alive	round	wrinkles
Help us eat	Different in animals and people	Many sizes
Help us drink	Smooth in rats	Many shapes
Be different sizes		
Help us read		

Sample Sentences:

The brain can help us do behaviors. The brain is often round and bumpy in people. The brain is smooth and small in rats.