

Brain Health: It's SPECtacular

Do I Really Have a Brain? (A Brain Facts Story)
(PreK - 4-5 yrs.)
Craft: Thinking Cap



STORY CONNECTION-SLIDE 15-17 (Approx Time: 15-20 mins)

We may not be able to SEE our brains or FEEL our brains, but - we can THINK and if our brain is supposed to help us to THINK and we can THINK - then we must have a brain!!!

Materials needed:

- Brain template (included below) or paper for drawing a brain (1 per student)
- Sentence strips, string, yarn, etc. for attaching to the brain template
- Scissors
- Tape or stapler
- Crayons, markers, colored pencils

Preparation needed:

- Determine if student(s) will use the brain template or draw one on their own.
 - If using the brain template, determine if the student(s) will cut the brain during the craft or if you
 will pre-cut the brains.
 - If student(s) draw their own brain,
 - the lines for the wrinkles can be added with crayons, markers, or colored pencils.
 - project template for student(s) to copy.
- Determine what material will be used to create the "band" of the thinking cap.
- Determine the process you will use to help student(s) attach their brain to their band.
- Create a list of questions for student(s) to answer using their "thinking caps." (will vary based on group) ex. 2+2=? / close your eyes -What is a color in the American flag?/ What part of your body are your eyes in?

Instructions:

- 1. Student(s) have learned that since they can think, then they must have a brain!
- 2. Each student needs a brain (template to cut/pre-cut template/draw on blank paper)
- 3. Student(s) may color their brain.
- 4. Help student(s) attach the brain to the pre-determined band.
- 5. Size the band to fit student(s)' heads. They now have a thinking cap!
- 6. Once everyone has on their thinking caps, ask several questions like those in the story that student(s) can answer. These will vary depending on the group of student(s).

7.	Conclude the activity by reminding them that even though we cannot see or feel our brains, we can think so that is how we know we really do have a brain.

