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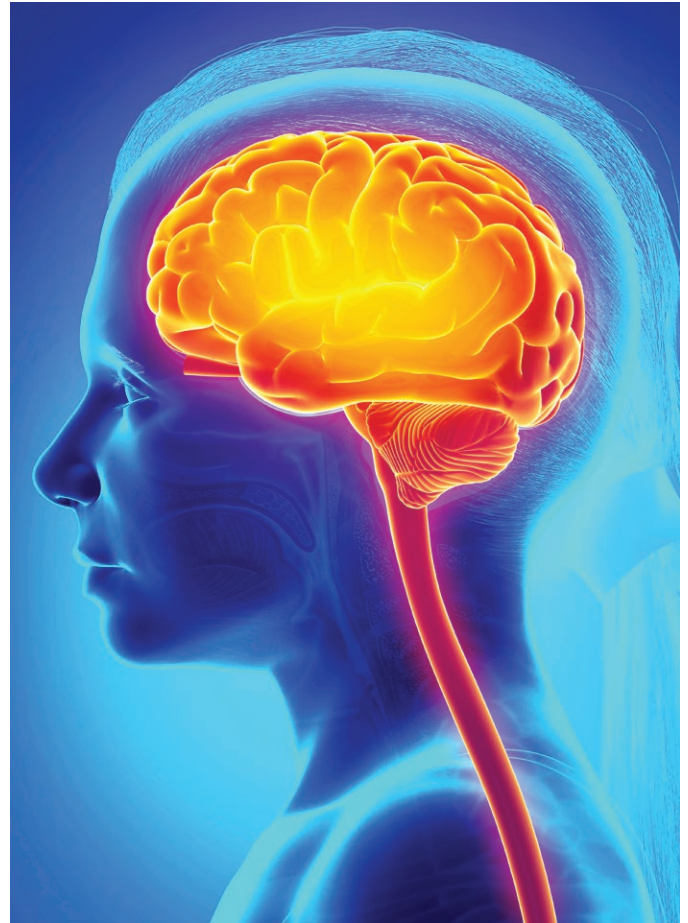
The Amazing Human Brain

The human brain is an amazing organ that works like the control center of your body. It is located inside your skull, which helps protect it from injury. Although the brain weighs only about three pounds in an adult, it has many important jobs to do every second of the day.

Your brain helps you think, learn, remember, and solve problems. When you read a book, answer a math question, or remember a friend's name, your brain is hard at work. It also helps you understand what you see, hear, smell, taste, and touch.

Different parts of the brain have different jobs. The cerebrum is the largest part. It helps with thinking, memory, learning, and controlling movements. The cerebellum, located near the back of the brain, helps with balance and coordination. It helps you walk, run, ride a bicycle, and play sports without falling over. The brain stem connects the brain to the spinal cord. It controls important actions that happen automatically, such as breathing and helping control your heartbeat.

The brain communicates with the rest of the body through a huge network of nerve cells called neurons. Neurons carry messages very quick-



ly. For example, when you touch something hot, messages travel through your nervous system so your body can react.

Your brain needs care just like the rest of your body. Eating nutritious foods, exercising, getting enough sleep, and wearing a helmet during activities such as bike riding can help keep your brain healthy and protected. Learning new things also gives your brain a workout!

The Amazing Human Brain

Comprehension Questions

1. Where is the human brain located?

2. What protects the brain from injury?

3. Name three things the brain helps you do.

4. What is the largest part of the brain?

5. What are two jobs of the cerebellum?

6. Which part of the brain controls automatic actions such as breathing?

7. What are neurons?

8. What happens when you touch something hot?

9. Name three ways you can help keep your brain healthy.

10. Why do you think the brain is called the body's control center?

ANSWER KEY

Comprehension Questions

1. Where is the human brain located?

The brain is located inside the skull.

2. What protects the brain from injury?

The skull helps protect the brain from injury.

3. Name three things the brain helps you do.

Possible answers include thinking, learning, remembering, solving problems, moving, and understanding the senses.

4. What is the largest part of the brain?

The cerebrum is the largest part of the brain.

5. What are two jobs of the cerebellum?

The cerebellum helps with balance and coordination.

6. Which part of the brain controls automatic actions such as breathing?

The brain stem controls automatic actions such as breathing and helps control the heartbeat.

7. What are neurons?

Neurons are nerve cells that carry messages through the nervous system.

8. What happens when you touch something hot?

Messages quickly travel through the nervous system so the body can react.

9. Name three ways you can help keep your brain healthy.

Possible answers include eating nutritious foods, exercising, getting enough sleep, wearing a helmet, and learning new things.

10. Why do you think the brain is called the body's control center?

The brain is called the control center because it controls many of the body's actions and helps us think, learn, remember, and move.
