

Build a Brain Cell

Your brain is super important! It controls your muscles to help you move, your feelings to make you happy or sad, and your memory so you can learn new things. It is made up of billions of little cells called **neurons**.

Neurons are like tiny wires, so small you can't even see them. They **carry information** all around your brain, **connecting** different parts to each other. When you learn something new, that information travels along the same neurons over and over again, each time getting a little bit stronger. That's why, when you want to get good at something, practise always makes perfect!

Let's follow an example of how the brain and neurons work together to help us get better at things:

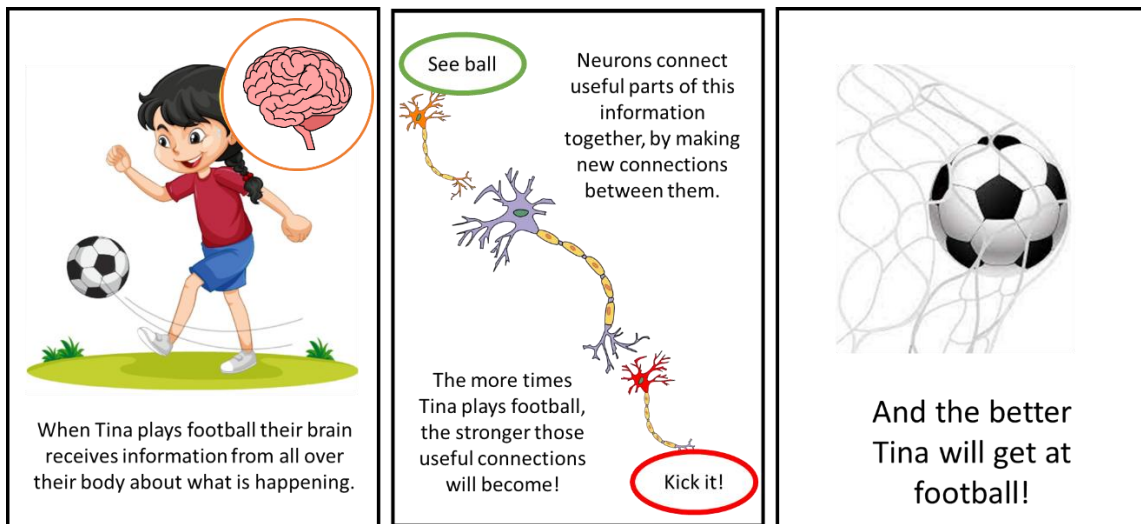
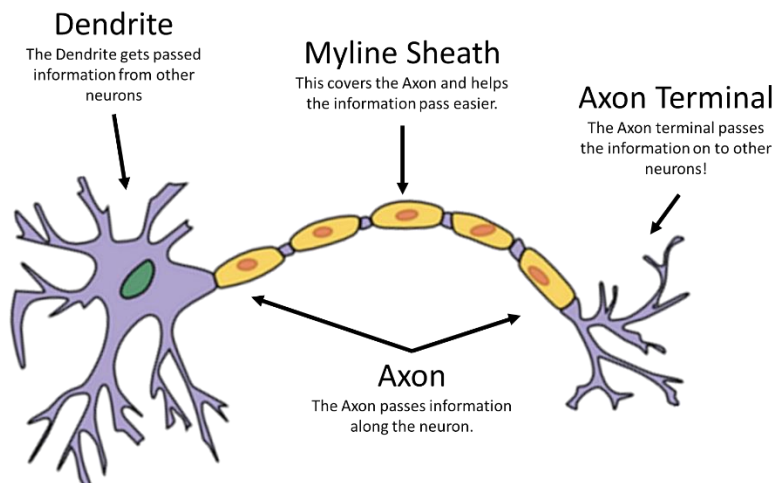


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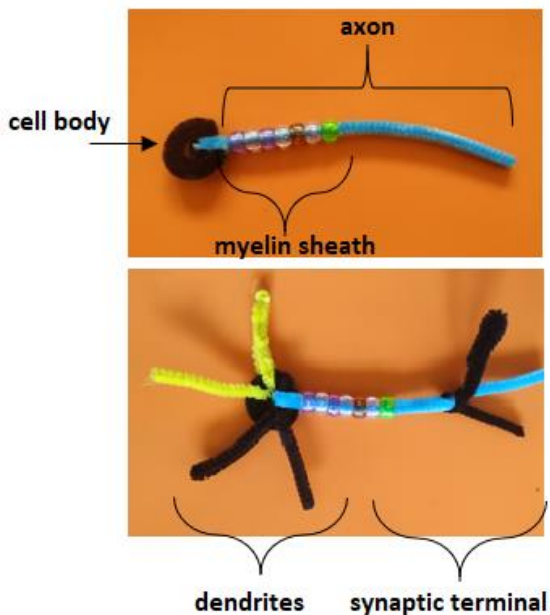
Neurons are made of 3 different parts. The **Dendrites**, **Axon**, **Myline sheath** and **Axon terminals**.



Instructions

Now that we know a bit about neurons, let's get out those pipe cleaners and make one!

There are multiple types of neurons so we will teach you how to do a few different types. To do the first neuron, you will need 4 pipe cleaners and a few beads. Use whichever colours you like best!



1. Take one pipe cleaner and roll it into a ball. This represents the cell body.

2. Take another pipe cleaner and attach it to the cell body by pushing it through the ball. Twist them together until they are secure. This will be the axon.

3. Add beads along the length of the axon, these represent the myelin sheath.

4. Finally, take two pipe cleaners. Wrap one around the end of the axon, this is the synaptic terminal. Pass the other through the cell body, this represents the dendrites

Here are a few other neurons that you can make:

