

BRAIN BOXES SCIENCE NIGHT

OUTREACH PRE-VISIT PAGE ALL AGES

Brain Boxes Science Night is intended to be great addition to your own school's science night, rather than the main event. Arizona Science Center will be arriving an hour before the start of your **Brain Boxes Science Night**. Arizona Science Center staff will be bringing different activities, each focusing on a function of the brain. Activities include:

Human Brain: Includes a life size model of half of a brain and shows the different parts of the brain and what function they serve. Also includes activities for finding your blind spot (place where the optic nerve connects to the brain and is void of photo-receptor cells) and "Stroop Effect" (interference of different information).

The Brain in Action: Includes two activities: Tower of Hanoi and Blocks of Babylon. Tower of Hanoi is a mathematical game of moving disks onto different pegs using simple rules. Blocks of Babylon is a brain teaser puzzle.

Magical Number: Includes wooden pattern blocks which help children explore and analyze geometric shapes, dimensions, and spatial relationships.

Tie a String Around Your Finger: Explores working memory and long-term memory with activities such as recognition/recall, storing concepts, context, mnemonics, and cueing.

Thinking in New Ways: Explores the steps we go through to solve a problem; identification, exploration, and looking back to see how well the strategies worked. Includes two activities: the River Crossing (riddle on how a farmer gets his three supplies across a river) and Making New Patterns (moving sticks around to form new shapes).

Reading Faces: Making a face is one way to communicate feelings. In this activity, participants will learn how good they are at reading faces and can also test their own ability to convey a certain emotion to someone else.

Cooperation & Competition: In competition, the goals are mutually exclusive: one side wins and one side loses. In cooperation, the goals are mutually beneficial: both sides can be successful together. This kit contains one activity on each for families to explore this difference.

The Eye of the Beholder: Includes various optical illusions to show how the brain interprets information from the eyes and tries to make sense of it.

PROGRAM NEEDS

- **Eight tables; one for each brain station**
- **Eight adult volunteers; one to facilitate each brain station**

