



SfS Away from the Classroom!

SCIENCE
FROM SCIENTISTS

AP20: Experimenting with the Brain (Recommended for Grades 3-8)

Please use the following resources to learn about how our brains learn.

Watch these Videos:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-kohUpQwZt8> and https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_nWMP68DqHE

Answer these questions:

- Why is it hard for a baby to grab things at first?
- What is going on in the brain when you start learning something new?
- How does practice make you better at a task?

Activities: Follow these directions to test your own learning strategies!

You will need:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Paper• Pencil	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• List of 10 words• A partner (mom/dad/sibling)
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Procedure:

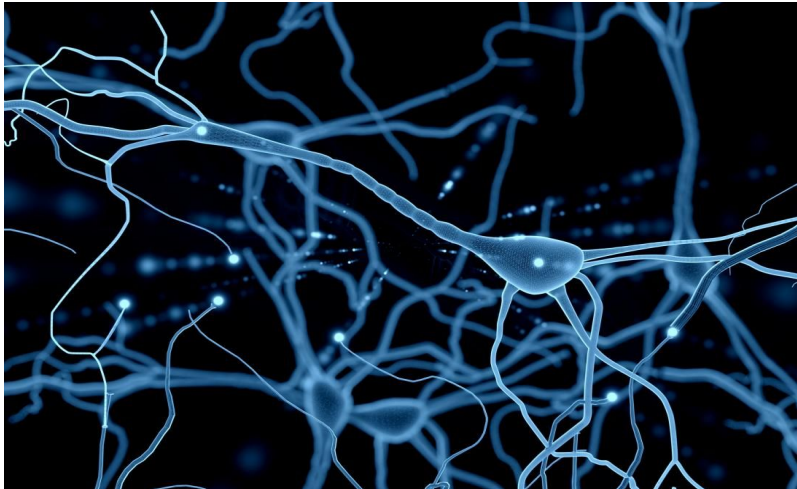
Work in pairs. One student is the Reader and one is the Recorder.

1. Reader, read the list of ten words to the Recorder.
2. Reader, mix up the order of the words and read them again to the Recorder.
3. Reader, read the words a third time (in yet another order)
4. Recorder, write down or say all of the words that you can remember.

How well was the Recorder able to remember the words? Try something different:

1. Reader, get a new list of words. Mix the new words with the old words.
2. Reader, read all of the words out loud to the Recorder.
3. Recorder, tell the Reader which words you recognize from the original list.
4. Reader, write down how many words the Recorder remembered correctly.

Was recognizing words easier than remembering the words? What can you do if you want to learn and remember information you have for a test?



Make observations & use Claims, Evidence, and Reasoning!

1. **Claim:** Recognizing words was easier than remembering the words.
 - **Evidence:**

 - **Reasoning:**

2. **Claim:** Practicing a skill, or studying, strengthens connections in your brain between neurons..
 - **Evidence:**

 - **Reasoning:**