



Creative Brain Structure & Function Project

Subjects: Psychology, AP Psychology, Anatomy, Health

Grade Levels: 9–12

Time Frame: 3–5 class periods (plus presentation time)



Overview

Students will select **one neurological structure or neurotransmitter** and design an **original, creative presentation** that teaches **location, structure, and function** in a way that:

- Captures classmates' attention
- Helps others **remember the function and location**
- Can be used as a **review tool** later in the year

Students are encouraged to move beyond traditional posters and slides. The goal is **learning through creativity**.



Learning Objectives

Students will be able to:

- Identify the **location** of a neurological structure or neurotransmitter
- Explain its **primary function(s)**
- Demonstrate understanding through a **creative, original format**
- Teach peers using engaging visual, auditory, or interactive methods
- Create a product that supports **long-term review**

Topic Selection List

(Teachers may expand or modify this list)

Brain Structures & Areas

- Amygdala
- Auditory Cortex
- Broca's Area
- Cerebellum
- Cerebral Cortex
- Cerebrum
- Corpus Callosum
- Forebrain
- Frontal Lobe
- Hindbrain
- Hippocampus
- Hypothalamus
- Medulla
- Midbrain
- Motor Cortex
- Occipital Lobe
- Pons
- Prefrontal Cortex
- Reticular Formation
- Somatosensory Cortex
- Temporal Lobe
- Thalamus
- Wernicke's Area

Neurotransmitters

- Norepinephrine

Creative Format Options

(Students may propose alternatives with teacher approval)

Students may present their topic using **any creative format**, including but not limited to:

Visual / Physical


- Illustrated graphic or diagram
- Clay or physical model
- 3D-printed structure
- Classroom display piece


Audio / Performance

- Original song or rap
- Spoken-word performance
- Audio recording or podcast

Digital / Media

- Short video
- Animation
- Interactive digital graphic

 **Digital projects** may be hosted online for class review.

 **Physical projects** may be displayed in the classroom.

Required Content (All Projects Must Include)

Regardless of format, every project must clearly show:

1. **Name of the structure or neurotransmitter**
2. **Location** (where it is found)
3. **Primary function(s)**
4. **Why it matters** (what happens if it's damaged or missing)
5. A **memory aid** (visual cue, lyric, slogan, or analogy)

Presentation & Sharing

- Students briefly **present or explain** their creation to the class
- Classmates are encouraged to ask questions
- Projects become part of a **class review collection**

Assessment Criteria (Teacher-Flexible)

Category	Description
Accuracy	Information is scientifically correct
Creativity	Original, engaging, and thoughtful design
Clarity	Easy for others to understand and remember
Review Value	Useful for future studying
Effort	Clear investment of time and care

(Point values may be assigned by the teacher.)

Why This Works

This project:

- Appeals to **multiple learning styles**
- Encourages **peer teaching**
- Builds **long-term memory**
- Gives students **ownership of learning**
- Works across **multiple disciplines**