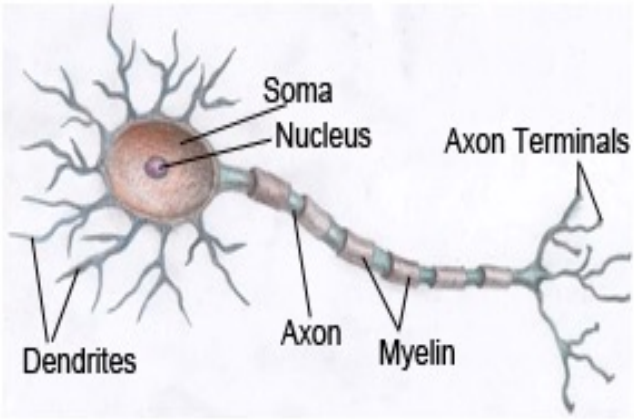
Exquisite Corpse Neurons
The purpose of this project is to allow students to explore something as a group that is relatively complex (in this case a neuron) in a way that encourages them to think about what it actually does by relating it to something else on some point of comparison.

Take a piece of paper and fold it into equal sections (in this case three but you can use more) Each section will correspond to a particular part of your subject, here I have broken this drawing into three sections

section 1: The dendrites and soma
section 2: The axon and myelin sheath
section 3: The axon terminals



- split into groups of three
- each person gets a pre-folded sheet of paper

- each person draws a visual metaphor for the dendrites and soma based on what it does or what it looks like drawing about a quarter of an inch past the first fold.

- fold the drawing you just made underneath the paper and hand it to the person on your left.
- each person starts drawing a visual metaphor for the axon and myelin using the portion of the first drawing to start it.
- fold that drawing underneath the paper and hand it to the person on your left.
- each person starts drawing a visual metaphor for the axon terminals using the visible portion of the previous drawing to start it.
- Unfold the entire drawing.

A few ideas to help people get started
The Latin meaning of the neuron parts: dendrite means branch, soma means body, axon means axis, and axon terminals are the end of the axis.
what they do: dendrites are the site of arrival for information in the neuron, the soma contains the nucleus and DNA and also tells the neuron whether to send or inhibit a signal, the axon is the wire that the electrical signal goes through, myelin acts as insulation, and the axon terminals send that signal on to the next neuron
Lastly what do these different parts physically resemble.