



## The Synaptic Connection

**Pre-synaptic neuron:** delivers a chemical signal to the next neuron(s)

**Post - synaptic neuron:** receives chemical signals from other neurons

**Vesicles:** small fluid filled sacs inside of a neuron that contain neurotransmitters

**Neurotransmitters:** chemicals that transmit signals from one neuron to another

**Receptors:** proteins embedded on the surface of neurons; the point where chemicals bind to a neuron

**Transporters:** remove neurotransmitters from the synaptic cleft by drawing them back up into the neuron

**Synaptic Cleft / Synapse:** the junction point between two neurons

Neurotransmitters (chemical messengers):

**DA, Dopamine:** mood, motivation, movement

**5HT, Serotonin:** mood, appetite

**GABA:** inhibitory, regulates anxiety

**Glutamate:** excitatory, learning and memory