

NW Noggin Plaster Brains

ESSENTIAL QUESTION:

- What are some major areas of the brain and what are their general functions?

GOALS:

- Create a small press mold brain that allows them to label its different parts
- Learn the major areas of the brain and their functions

MATERIALS:

- plaster
- several small brain molds
- tempera or acrylic paint
- paint brushes
- markers
- small buckets (1 gallon) for mixing plaster

SUBJECT CONNECTIONS:

- Overview of the physical characteristics of the brain

LEAD IN:

- show several examples of the brain's major areas and list some of the functions of each.

DIRECTIONS:

1. Mix plaster in a one-gallon bucket, use 1 ½ quarts of cold water for each 4.4 lb. carton of plaster
2. Pour water in first and then hand mix the plaster as you pour it in until there are no lumps left, this should take about 5 minutes
3. Pour plaster into molds (lightly tap the sides to get rid of air pockets and bubbles)
4. Set aside to dry overnight
5. Carefully remove plaster from the mold being careful not to push on it too hard
6. Review the sections of the brain
7. Paint each section a different color
8. Label each section with markers

RESOURCES:

- Brain areas- <https://explorable.com/lobes-of-the-brain>

Materials:

- Plaster- https://www.amazon.com/Dap-Plaster-Paris-20-Min/dp/B008SR3W1G/ref=pd_sbs_201_17?encoding=UTF8&pd_rd_i=B008SR3W1G&pd_rd_r=DRSSTV8NA1875ZSZ6XG3&pd_rd_w=scP3h&pd_rd_wg=Ng4rj&psc=1&efRID=DRSSTV8NA1875ZSZ6XG3
- Molds- https://www.amazon.com/dp/B07F8KBT19/ref=sspa_dk_detail_8?psc=1