Topic of the Week#7: Your Brain on Drugs

Below you will find weekly educational videos, games, articles and resources for middle school and high school students. For additional fun, please see links for family challenges, contests, service projects and scholarship opportunities.

MIDDLE SCHOOL:

Your Brain At-a-Glance ARTICLE/WORKSHEET

Drugs + Your Body GAME

What's the Question? TRIVIA!

HIGH SCHOOL:

Drugs and the Teen Brain **ARTICLE**

Drugs + Your Body GAME

Drugs: What's the "Worst"? DEBATE!

FAMILY RESOURCES:

What is Your Teen Thinking? **ARTICLE**

Positive Parenting for Prevention FAMILY CHECK-UP

Drugs & Teen Brain Development

Drug abuse can have an effect on teen brain development





Common Parts of the Brain Impacted

- Neurotransmitters
- Dopamine and serotonin production
- Prefrontal cortex

How Do Drugs Impact the Teen Brain?

- Lower IQ
- Memory loss or impairment
- Slowed thinking
- Trouble performing easy
- tasks
 Judgment
- and reaction time Judgment





Teens Are At Risk

- Kids who begin drinking before age 15 are 4x more likely to become addicted than people who start at age 21.
- Teens may lose up to 8 IQ points between childhood and adulthood.
- Teens who smoke pot regularly have, on average, one grade point lower than their peers.

Long Term Effects & Consequences

- Addiction and dependency
- · Co-occurring mental health disorders
- Difficulty in school
- Dangerous Behaviors

