



*Superheroes,  
Villains, Sidekicks  
and the Brain*



### Who?

In groups of no smaller than three and no bigger than four, you are to complete the following unit project. Please note that each member of the group will need to put this into their portfolio so you will need multiple copies.

### What is the task?

You are to make up a superhero, villain, or sidekick for the following 17 areas of the human brain. What would that character have as their special power and or special weakness if that part of their brain was 'super'. By the end you should have 17 separate characters.

- |                |                          |                                 |
|----------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Medulla     | 7. Amygdala              | 13. Primary Somatosenory Cortex |
| 2. Pons        | 8. Occipital Lobe        | 14. Left Hemisphere             |
| 3. Cerebellum  | 9. Temporal Lobe         | 15. Right Hemisphere            |
| 4. Thalmus     | 10. Parietal Lobe        | 16. Broca's Area                |
| 5. Hypothalmus | 11. Frontal Lobe         | 17. Wernicke's Area             |
| 6. Hippocampus | 12. Primary Motor Cortex |                                 |

### What will my finished product look like?

You will need the following:

- Diagram(s) labeling the location of each of the 17 areas
- 17 Character Descriptions that include all of the following (you can find a sample on the reverse page)
  - A name for the character that references the brain area
  - Visual(s)
  - A description of the character's super powers and/or weaknesses
  - The area of the brain used for that character and what it actually controls in the brain

# Amyg'DaMan

Bath of Doom



Blessed with a heightened amygdala thanks to a freak accident in the Vidal Sassoon mouse testing facility, Amyg'DaMan knows when he can win a fight or when he needs to take flight . . . yo! With only his superhuman ability to read facial features and govern emotions, Amyg'DaMan never gets in over his head. He sports a caveman like costume as a shout out to his ancestors, his peeps you might say. Had it not been for their amygdalas they wouldn't have known when to run from predatory trolls with extra arms or stay and slaughter innocent docile foes. This ones for you Amygdala guy and the quick judgment that saves your life.



Thank goodness 'Gratuitous - Arm-Troll-Guy' doesn't know my super powers from a mouse. If he did, and I no longer had a super amygdala, I'd become tame and docile while he beat my hair into a matted mess.



## **Amygdala –**

An almond shaped structure of the Limbic System that governs emotions related to self-preservation. It is essential for decoding emotions (facial features), and in particular stimuli that are threatening to the organism



# Superheroes, Villains, Sidekicks and the Brain:

The Score Sheet



- |                 |                          |                          |                          |                      |                          |
|-----------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Medulla      | <input type="checkbox"/> | 8. Occipital Lobe        | <input type="checkbox"/> | 13. Sensory Cortex   | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Pons         | <input type="checkbox"/> | 9. Temporal Lobe         | <input type="checkbox"/> | 14. Left Hemisphere  | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Cerebellum   | <input type="checkbox"/> | 10. Parietal Lobe        | <input type="checkbox"/> | 15. Right Hemisphere | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Thalamus     | <input type="checkbox"/> | 11. Frontal Lobe         | <input type="checkbox"/> | 16. Broca's Area     | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Hypothalamus | <input type="checkbox"/> | 12. Primary Motor Cortex | <input type="checkbox"/> | 17. Wernicke's Area  | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. Hippocampus  | <input type="checkbox"/> |                          |                          |                      |                          |
| 7. Amygdala     | <input type="checkbox"/> |                          |                          |                      |                          |

1. Diagram(s) labeling the location of each of the 17 areas           /10

2. Name for the character that reference the brain area           /10

3. Visual(s) for each character           /20

4. A description of the character's super powers and/or weaknesses           /30

5. The area of the brain used for that character and what it actually controls in the brain           /30

**Total Score**           /100