

Write Informative/Explanatory Text - Rock Paper Scissors Style

Grade Level: 6-8

Competency: Demonstrate the ability to obtain valid health information.

Objective: Students will learn about the dangers of drinking and driving.

Content Strand: Social and Personal Skills (S and P)

Common Core:

CCSS.ELA.Literacy.W.8.2 - Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas, concepts, and information through the selection, organization, and analysis of relevant content.

Prerequisites: The teacher will quickly review the three main brain parts and their location:

1. Cerebellum (rock) - Coordinates movement, posture, and balance
2. Cerebrum (paper) - Higher brain functions like thoughts and actions
3. Brain Stem (scissors) - Basic vital life functions like breathing, heartbeat, and blood pressure

Description: Students will play the hand game of rock-paper-scissors. However, they will modify the game by saying Cerebellum-Cerebrum-Brain Stem-Go. They will raise their hand in a fist four times. On the fifth they will show one of the following hand gestures.

1. Cerebellum - (rock) - clenched fist
2. Cerebrum - (paper) - open hand
3. Brain Stem – (scissors) - two fingers extended and touching

The object of the game is to defeat your opponent and then change partners. Rules:

1. Cerebellum (rock) - crushes brain stem (scissors)
2. Brain Stem (scissors) - cuts cerebrum (paper)
3. Cerebrum (paper) - covers cerebellum (rock)

Extend the lesson: The teacher will have students research how the different brain parts are used during driving and the affect alcohol has on the brain. The teacher will then choose from the Common Core Standards on informational and explanatory text to be focused on for this topic.

1. Cerebellum - Coordinates left and right hand movements on the steering wheel.
Alcohol causes a lack of muscle coordination and balance.
2. Cerebrum - Allows sensory processing such as responding to a red light.
Alcohol causes your reasoning and memory to be impaired.
3. Brain Stem - Responsible for breathing, heartbeat and blood pressure.
Alcohol can impact breathing and heart rate.

Resources:

National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence: Drinking and Driving

www.ncadd.org/index.php/learn-about-alcohol/drinking-and-driving