



- How we learn
- Memory

## STUDY NOTES WHILE READING

### Writing Style

- Philip Bunting's writing invites curiosity. He uses questions to engage the reader and personification to turn the parts of the brain into characters that readers can relate to. Personification is when writers give human characteristics to non-human things (like the parts of your brain). Personification is one way that Bunting helps us to remember the parts of the brain—after all, it's much easier to remember someone's name than science terminology! Some examples of personification in the book include giving the brain parts names, facial expressions and dialogue. Can you find any other examples?

### Illustration Style

- An infographic is a type of illustration that allows us to easily (and quickly!) understand a topic. This is particularly useful when we're talking about something as complex as a brain. Infographics might use charts, graphs, maps, icons and images to help make a topic easy to understand. Discuss the way that Philip Bunting uses infographics to convey information in the book. What kind of images does he use, and what information do they reveal? Make a list of the information you learn from the text and the information you learn from the images.
  - You can practise using an infographic by doing the following very basic experiment—ask everyone in your class what they ate for breakfast, then figure out a way to show what you learn through images. You might draw something that represents hot breakfasts vs cold, or people who had something with milk, people who ate fruit, or people who ate eggs. Or you might learn something different about your classmates!

## AFTER READING

### Comprehension

- What are the main parts of the brain? Come up with a way to remember what they're called and what they do.
- What food does the brain stem look like? What is its function?
- How many hemispheres does the brain have?
- How do neurons pass along information?
- What makes the brain pink?
- Which part of the brain converts short term memories to long term memories?
- Where do feelings come from?
- What are some of the things that happen in our brain while we're asleep?
- What are the four steps in an average sleep cycle?
- What are some of the ways the book tells you to take care of your brain? Which of these have you done recently?

### Discussion Questions and Activities

- Why is fear such an important emotion?
  - Write about a time that you've felt afraid and see if you can work out what your brain was trying to tell you. You could also draw this as a comic!
- Draw a picture of your brain and make a list of what each of the parts are for. Colour it in and give it a personality—after all, your brain isn't quite like anyone else's!
- Explore the illustration on the introduction pages of the book—it's a collage of images that show some of the things a brain does. Make a collage for your brain, try to include an example for each of the brain's functions.
- Create a map or infographic that shows what happens in the brain when we take a bite of an apple.
- Make a poster that shares some of the ways people can look after their brain. Make sure it clearly displays the information and is eye-catching so that people stop and read it!
- Make a list of all of the new words you learn while reading the book and try to use them at home.

## AUTHOR OF NOTES

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