INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE BRAIN ACTIVITY AGES 4 AND UP

In order for a child to fully understand what dementia is, children need to know the basic understandings of how the brain works and what each part of the brain does in order for us to function on a day to day basis.

For this activity children will be able to use their creativity and learn how the brain works by using the following tools:

- Brain Activity worksheet
- Colors, markers (color and draw pictures)
- Stickers, stamps

The instructions to execute this project is to be able to have the child identify what each part of the brain does by using the key provide below on the brain picture template.

- Each box will be a different color, matching the same color of the different parts of the brain. Next to the colored box can include different symbols, stickers, or drawings of what that specific part of the brain does. It will encourage the children to process and think ahead of what that part of the brain does before explaining of what that part of the brain does. (For Example, if the Temporal Lobe is going to be red, then the box should be colored red and next to the red box there should be hints such as pictures, or drawings of emotions, or sense of hearing. By doing this you will be asking the children what they see and asking if they can think what that part of the brain does)
- After they have given their answers, it will be explained what that part of the brain is called, what it does and have them color in the part of the brain matching the corresponding colored box.
- Once they color in the brain, the children will be able to accessorize their brain by putting stamps, stickers or draw something that relates to the functions of that part of the brain.
- Once the whole brain is completed and you can go over one more time what each part of the brain name is and how it functions.
- Lastly, you will be able to compare by looking at the completed brain and how dementia can affect the different parts of the brain and explain the differences.
Frontal Lobe:
- Sense of small
- Motor control
- Behavior
- Short-term memory
- Speech
- Problem solving
- Concentration

Parietal Lobe:
- Sense of touch
- Sense of pressure
- Sense of taste
- Body awareness

Occipital Lobe:
- Sense of vision
- Sight

Temporal Lobe:
- Sense of hearing
- Facial recognition
- Emotions
- Long-term memory

Brain Stem:
- Breathing
- Heart Rate / Pulse
- Blood Pressure
- Digestion

Cerebellum:
- Balance
- Coordination
- Smooth Movement
- Fine motor skills
- Known as "Little Brain"
Results of the Brain Activity

Below are pictures of brain activity that I completed with my daughter. First I explained to her that each section of the brain was a different color and I created a key in order for her to understand what each part of the brain does and know where to match each colored box with each section of the brain. I included stickers for her to put on the brain based on what that specific part of the brain does to make it fun and engaging. For example, for the temporal lobe I used red and matched it with the red box. Next to the red box I put stickers with different emotions in order for her to relate it with that part of the brain that helps with emotions, along with facial recognition, long term memory, sense of hearing. I was a bit limited on stickers, so I improvised by putting the stickers that I had and making some drawings. By doing this brain activity she learned the names of each parts of the brain, but she also understood the differences between someone who has dementia and someone who does not. I explained to her how each part of the brain functions and how someone with dementia can struggle with doing the normal everyday things that she is able to do. I think she had a lot of fun doing the activity but there was a big challenge along the way doing this activity. The biggest challenge was conducting the activity at home where there are distractions, being in a different setting would have been easier for concentration. Overall, the activity went well and by the end of the activity she was able to distinguish the differences of someone with dementia and someone who does not have dementia. By doing this brain activity a child is able to understand why their loved ones aren’t able to do the normal activities with someone who has dementia and have an understanding of how the brain functions which can help them have closure and know how to cope with their loved one having dementia.
END RESULTS: