

BRAIN FUN FACTS

- 1 Smell your memories** — Smell packs a punch. Memories that are linked to a scent have a much greater chance of sticking with you.
- 2 It's electric** — Your brain generates enough electricity to power a light bulb.
- 3 Ruining the joke** — Your brain's too smart to let you tickle yourself. It knows what's coming.
- 4 Make a connection** — Your memory works through connections—one thought often leads to the next. If you need to remember something, try to weave the facts into a story.
- 5 Dream a little dream** — We all dream. Even if you can't remember dreams, your brain apparently uses dreams to sort through your memories each night.
- 6 A cooling system** — Scientists think yawns pull in a bunch of oxygen to cool off your brain and get you to wake up. So, go ahead and yaaaaaawn. (Still no explanation why seeing someone else yawn can make you yawn.)
- 7 Air hog** — Your brain sucks up about 20% of the oxygen that comes into your lungs. It needs the O₂.
- 8 Talk about zip** — When your hand touches a hot pan, your brain acts fast. "Move those fingers" comes roaring down your spinal cord around 200 miles per hour.
- 9 Squished** — Grab a handful of JELL-O. That's about what a brain would feel like. Eww!
- 10 Strike up the band** — Those music lessons you dread really do your brain good. Practice your piano keys and get those neurons firing.
- 11 Not so gray** — Although brain tissue is called gray matter, a living brain is actually pinkish-tan on the outside and white inside.

