LESSON 1: The Science of Teen Decision Making

Objective:
LESSON 1: The Science of Teen Decision Making

Students will understand how the brain affects decision making.

Materials:
Poster Front and Worksheet 4

Time Required:
20 minutes, with additional time for students to complete Student Worksheet. Use the poster as a discussion starter.

Discussion:
1. What can r
2. 1. neurons/neurotransmitters; 2. prefrontal/control;  3. twelve and fourteen; 4. twenties; 5. limbic/emotional.
3. Some of the choices teens make are about things that affect their bodies.
4. 1. a; 2. c; 3. b; 4. a; 5. d.
5. 5. limbic/emotional.
6. b; 7. c; 8. a; 9. c; 10. r

LESSON 2: Drugs and Your Brain

Objective:

Students will understand the impact of drug use on the brain.

Materials:
Worksheet 1

Time Required:
10 minutes

Discussion:
1. How do you think the brain receives messages? Are there other processes outside the body that receive brain messages?
2. How does a neurotransmitter move across the synapse?
3. How do you think marijuana would affect the brain, illuminated through the science of how drugs affect the brain?

LESSON 3: Drugs and Your Body

Objective:

Students will understand basic effects peer influence can have on making decisions. Then, using facts they've learned about the brain, decision making, and the effects of drug use, students will work in groups to make better decisions when they have drug choices.

Materials:
Worksheet 3

Time Required:
20 minutes, with additional time for students to complete Student Worksheet.

Discussion:
1. How do you think marijuana might be used to make better decisions when they have drug choices?
2. List some ways to encourage teens to avoid drugs.
3. How do you think peer influence can affect teen drug choices?
4. How can parents and other adults help?

ASSESSMENT TOOL: Use Worksheet 5 as an assessment quiz to determine what students have learned throughout the lessons.