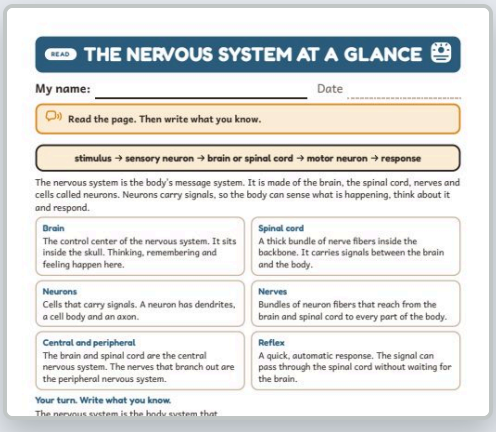
6TH–8TH GRADE · SCIENCE

BRAIN TO BODY

NERVOUS SYSTEM WORKSHEETS

Label a neuron, fill in the parts of the system, match clues to terms, read reaction data and draw the graph, sort central and peripheral, and write short answers. Answer keys, a tracker and a family page. Print, or type your answers. PDF.


READ THE NERVOUS SYSTEM AT A GLANCE

My name: _____ Date _____

Read the page. Then write what you know.

stimulus → sensory neuron → brain or spinal cord → motor neuron → response

The nervous system is the body's message system. It is made of the brain, the spinal cord, nerves and cells called neurons. Neurons carry signals, so the body can sense what is happening, think about it and respond.

Brain The control center of the nervous system. It sits inside the skull. Thinking, remembering and feeling happen here.

Spinal cord A thick bundle of nerve fibers inside the backbone. It carries signals between the brain and the body.

Neurons Cells that carry signals. A neuron has dendrites, a cell body and an axon.

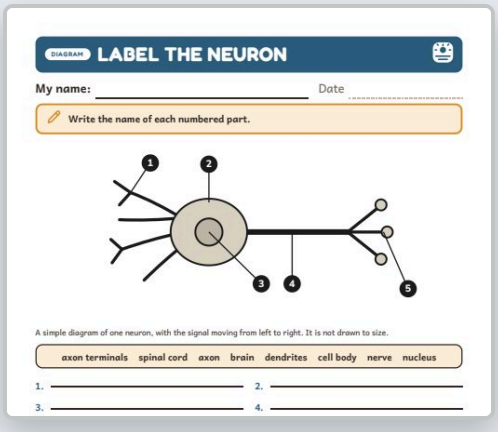
Nerves Bundles of neuron fibers that reach from the brain and spinal cord to every part of the body.

Central and peripheral The brain and spinal cord are the central nervous system. The nerves that branch out are the peripheral nervous system.

Reflex A quick, automatic response. The signal can pass through the spinal cord without waiting for the brain.

Your turn. Write what you know.

The nervous system is the body system that


DIAGRAM LABEL THE NEURON

My name: _____ Date _____

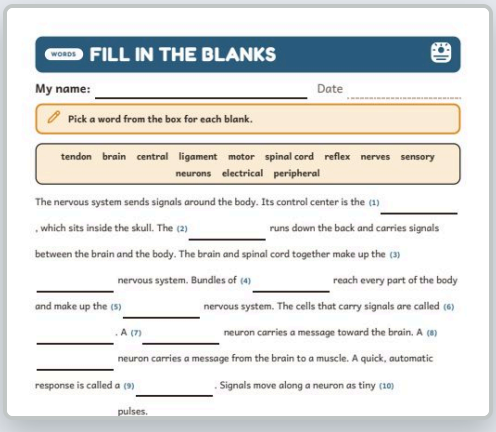
Write the name of each numbered part.

A simple diagram of one neuron, with the signal moving from left to right. It is not drawn to size.

axon terminals spinal cord axon brain dendrites cell body nerve nucleus

1. _____ 2. _____

3. _____ 4. _____

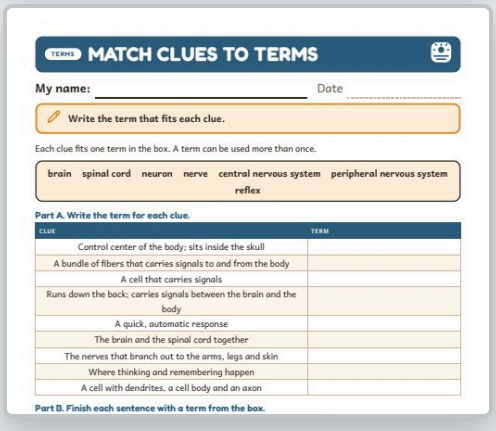

WORDS FILL IN THE BLANKS

My name: _____ Date _____

Pick a word from the box for each blank.

tendon brain central ligament motor spinal cord reflex nerves sensory neurons electrical peripheral

The nervous system sends signals around the body. Its control center is the (1) _____, which sits inside the skull. The (2) _____ runs down the back and carries signals between the brain and the body. The brain and spinal cord together make up the (3) _____ nervous system. Bundles of (4) _____ reach every part of the body and make up the (5) _____ nervous system. The cells that carry signals are called (6) _____. A (7) _____ neuron carries a message toward the brain. A (8) _____ neuron carries a message from the brain to a muscle. A quick, automatic response is called a (9) _____. Signals move along a neuron as tiny (10) _____ pulses.


TERMS MATCH CLUES TO TERMS

My name: _____ Date _____

Write the term that fits each clue.

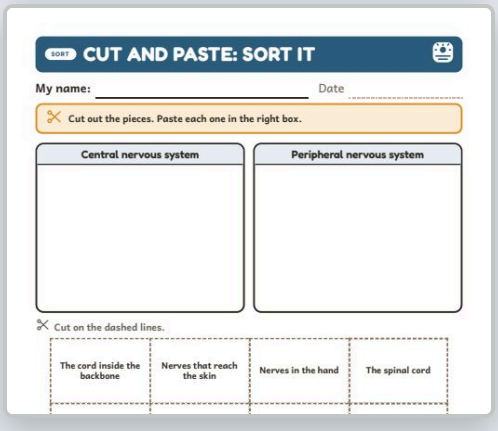
Each clue fits one term in the box. A term can be used more than once.

brain spinal cord neuron nerve central nervous system peripheral nervous system reflex

Part A. Write the term for each clue.

CLUE	TERM
Control center of the body; sits inside the skull	
A bundle of fibers that carries signals to and from the body	
A cell that carries signals	
Runs down the back; carries signals between the brain and the body	
A quick, automatic response	
The brain and the spinal cord together	
The nerves that branch out to the arms, legs and skin	
Where thinking and remembering happen	
A cell with dendrites, a cell body and an axon	

Part B. Finish each sentence with a term from the box.


SORT CUT AND PASTE: SORT IT

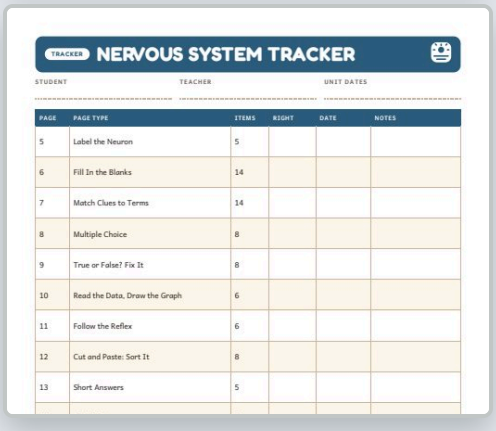
My name: _____ Date _____

Cut out the pieces. Paste each one in the right box.

Central nervous system	Peripheral nervous system

Cut on the dashed lines.

The cord inside the backbone	Nerves that reach the skin	Nerves in the hand	The spinal cord


TRACKER NERVOUS SYSTEM TRACKER

STUDENT _____ TEACHER _____ UNIT DATES _____

PAGE	PAGE TYPE	ITEMS	RIGHT	DATE	NOTES
5	Label the Neuron	5			
6	Fill In the Blanks	14			
7	Match Clues to Terms	14			
8	Multiple Choice	8			
9	True or False? Fix It	8			
10	Read the Data, Draw the Graph	6			
11	Follow the Reflex	6			
12	Cut and Paste: Sort It	8			
13	Short Answers	5			

25 Pages | **11 Page Types** | **77 Items** | **2 Answer Keys**

BRIGHT PATH SPED

START HERE

QUICK START

One complete kit for a nervous system unit in grades 6-8. Students read a reference page, label a neuron, fill in a paragraph, match clues to terms, answer questions, read reaction data and draw a graph, follow a reflex and write short answers — on pages with room to work.

THREE STEPS

1. **Teach or review with the reference page**
   Page 4 has the brain, spinal cord, neurons, nerves, central and peripheral, reflex, and a place for the student to write what they know. Read it together or hand it out as the first page.

2. **Hand over a page**
   Every student page opens with a name line and one short instruction. Nothing on it is written for you, so the student can start. Short answers have three or more lines and the explanations have five or six, so the page is the whole workspace.

3. **Check it, record it, send it home**
   The answer keys are pages 15 and 16. Record each page on the tracker (page 17), roll a group up on page 18, and send the family page (20). A filled example is on page 21.

WHICH PAGE, WHEN

WHEN…	USE…
Introducing or reviewing the unit	At a Glance, page 4 · Label the Neuron, page 5
Checking the vocabulary	Fill In the Blanks, page 6 · Multiple Choice, page 8
Connecting clues to terms	Match Clues to Terms, page 7
Quick check or exit slip	True or False? Fix It, page 9
Reading data and graphing	Read the Data, Draw the Graph, page 10
Hands-on sorting	Cut and Paste, page 12
Writing about science	Follow the Reflex, page 11 · Short Answers, page 13 · Explain It, page 14

Everything inside (25 pages)

- **11 student pages** in 11 page types: a reference page, a neuron diagram to label, fill in, match clues to terms, multiple choice, true or false, data and graph, flow chart, cut and paste and two short-answer pages
- **77 scored items** on 10 pages
- **8 cut-and-paste pieces** on one sort mat
- **2 answer keys, 1 tracker, 1 class grid**, 1 team note, 1 family page, 1 filled example, 1 phrase bank, 1 binder cover and 6 divider tabs

Print or type

Every page prints clean in black and white. The name line, answer boxes, blanks and writing lines are type-in fields in any PDF reader: click one, type, then save. This is a fillable PDF, not a slideshow or a word-processor file. The graph and the cut-and-paste sort are for pencil and scissors.

READ THE NERVOUS SYSTEM AT A GLANCE

My name: _____ Date .....

Read the page. Then write what you know.

stimulus → sensory neuron → brain or spinal cord → motor neuron → response

The nervous system is the body's message system. It is made of the brain, the spinal cord, nerves and cells called neurons. Neurons carry signals, so the body can sense what is happening, think about it and respond.

Brain
The control center of the nervous system. It sits inside the skull. Thinking, remembering and feeling happen here.

Spinal cord
A thick bundle of nerve fibers inside the backbone. It carries signals between the brain and the body.

Neurons
Cells that carry signals. A neuron has dendrites, a cell body and an axon.

Nerves
Bundles of neuron fibers that reach from the brain and spinal cord to every part of the body.

Central and peripheral
The brain and spinal cord are the central nervous system. The nerves that branch out are the peripheral nervous system.

Reflex
A quick, automatic response. The signal can pass through the spinal cord without waiting for the brain.

Your turn. Write what you know.

The nervous system is the body system that

_____

_____

_____

One question I still have about the nervous system

_____

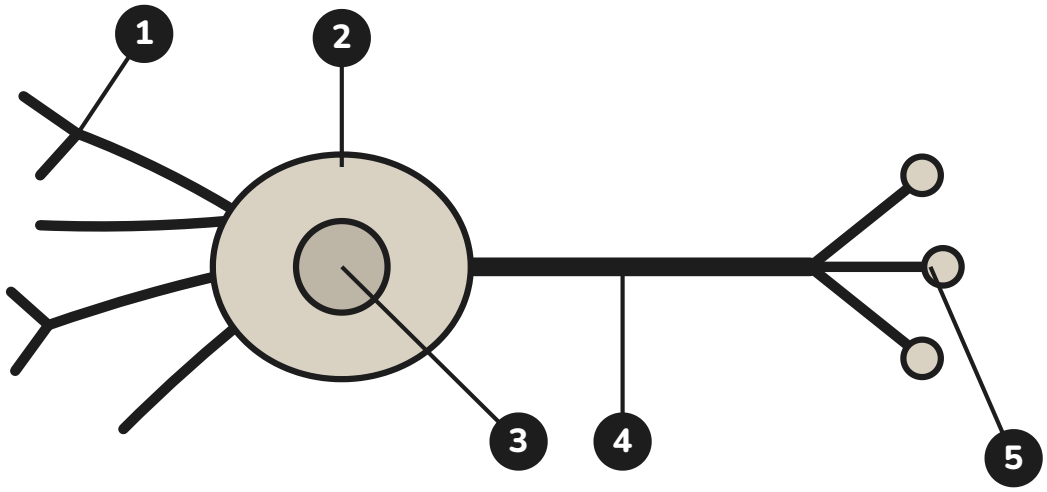
_____

DIAGRAM

LABEL THE NEURON

My name: _____ Date .....

Write the name of each numbered part.



A simple diagram of one neuron, with the signal moving from left to right. It is not drawn to size.

axon terminals **spinal cord** **axon** **brain** **dendrites** **cell body** **nerve** **nucleus**

1. _____ 2. _____

3. _____ 4. _____

5. _____

A. Which numbered part carries the signal away from the cell body?

B. What do dendrites do?

WORDS

FILL IN THE BLANKS

My name: _____ Date .....

Pick a word from the box for each blank.

tendon **brain** **central** **ligament** **motor** **spinal cord** **reflex** **nerves** **sensory** **neurons** **electrical** **peripheral**

The nervous system sends signals around the body. Its control center is the (1) _____, which sits inside the skull. The (2) _____ runs down the back and carries signals between the brain and the body. The brain and spinal cord together make up the (3) _____ nervous system. Bundles of (4) _____ reach every part of the body and make up the (5) _____ nervous system. The cells that carry signals are called (6) _____. A (7) _____ neuron carries a message toward the brain. A (8) _____ neuron carries a message from the brain to a muscle. A quick, automatic response is called a (9) _____. Signals move along a neuron as tiny (10) _____ pulses.

Follow a reflex. A hand touches something hot. Write the next four steps, in order, from the box above.

touch → [ ] → [ ] → [ ] → [ ]

A. Choose one word from the box that you did not use. Write what it means or what it does.

TERMS MATCH CLUES TO TERMS

My name: _____ Date .....

Write the term that fits each clue.

Each clue fits one term in the box. A term can be used more than once.

brain **spinal cord** **neuron** **nerve** **central nervous system** **peripheral nervous system** **reflex**

Part A. Write the term for each clue.

CLUE	TERM
Control center of the body; sits inside the skull	
A bundle of fibers that carries signals to and from the body	
A cell that carries signals	
Runs down the back; carries signals between the brain and the body	
A quick, automatic response	
The brain and the spinal cord together	
The nerves that branch out to the arms, legs and skin	
Where thinking and remembering happen	
A cell with dendrites, a cell body and an axon	

Part B. Finish each sentence with a term from the box.

A cell that carries signals is called a _____.

The brain and spinal cord make up the _____.

A quick, automatic response is a _____.

The nerves in the arms and legs are part of the _____.

Part C. Explain the difference between the central and the peripheral nervous system.

SORT CUT AND PASTE: SORT IT

My name: _____ Date .....

Cut out the pieces. Paste each one in the right box.

Central nervous system	Peripheral nervous system

Cut on the dashed lines.

The cord inside the backbone	Nerves that reach the skin	Nerves in the hand	The spinal cord
The control center inside the skull	Nerves that branch out from the spinal cord	The brain	Nerves in the foot

1. Write one sentence that tells how the central and the peripheral nervous system are different.

TRACKER

NERVOUS SYSTEM TRACKER

STUDENT _____ TEACHER _____ UNIT DATES _____

PAGE	PAGE TYPE	ITEMS	RIGHT	DATE	NOTES
5	Label the Neuron	5			
6	Fill In the Blanks	14			
7	Match Clues to Terms	14			
8	Multiple Choice	8			
9	True or False? Fix It	8			
10	Read the Data, Draw the Graph	6			
11	Follow the Reflex	6			
12	Cut and Paste: Sort It	8			
13	Short Answers	5			
14	Explain It	3			

How to fill this in

Write how many items the student got right and the date. A written answer counts as one item when it makes every point in the key (pages 15 and 16). A blank means not tried yet, never wrong. There are 77 items on the 10 pages above; the reference page (4) is not scored. Filled example: page 21.

STANDARD OR UNIT GOAL (YOUR OWN WORDING)

EXAMPLE JORDAN'S TRACKER

Jordan T. is invented; nothing on this page describes a real student. The blank tracker is on page 17.

STUDENT	TEACHER	UNIT DATES
Jordan T. (an invented student)	**Ms. Reyes (invented)**	**October**

PAGE	PAGE TYPE	ITEMS	RIGHT	DATE	NOTES
5	Label the Neuron	5	4	10/12	Mixed up axon and dendrites
6	Fill In the Blanks	14	12	10/13	Used a spare word twice
7	Match Clues to Terms	14	14	10/14	–
8	Multiple Choice	8	7	10/15	Missed number 7
9	True or False? Fix It	8	8	10/16	–
10	Read the Data, Draw the Graph	6	–	–	–
11	Follow the Reflex	6	–	–	–
12	Cut and Paste: Sort It	8	7	10/19	One piece in the wrong box
13	Short Answers	5	–	–	–
14	Explain It	3	–	–	–

How to read it

Jordan T. has done **6 of 10** scored pages and got **52 of 57** items right. **2** pages were all right and **5** items were missed across 4 pages. Every number here comes from the table above.

The family note this tracker would produce

"This month Jordan finished 6 pages and got 52 of 57 items right. The next thing to practice is naming the parts of a neuron and telling central from peripheral." — every number in it is a row of the table above.

What the table points to

4 pages carry a note and each one is short of full. Pages left blank (4 of them) are not tried yet, never wrong. The two writing pages, Short Answers and Explain It, are among them, so they are the next step.

THANK YOU

BEFORE YOU GO

THANK YOU FOR USING THIS RESOURCE

Built for the teacher whose students each need a different amount of support reading, writing and reasoning about science. If this helped, leaving feedback on TPT helps other teachers find it.

Everything inside, one more time

- **11 student pages** in 11 page types, **77 scored items**, every answer read from the same lists that draw the pages.
- **8 multiple-choice questions**, **8 true-or-false statements**, **8 cut-and-paste pieces** and **2 answer keys**.
- **1 tracker, 1 class grid, 1 team note, 1 family page, 1 filled example, 1 phrase bank** (15 starters), **1 binder cover** and divider tabs.

No real student anywhere in this file

The filled example on page 21 names "Jordan T.," an invented student used only to show how the tracker fills in. The ruler-drop data on page 10 is invented class data. No table, note or score anywhere in this resource describes a real child, and nothing here is a clinical judgment, an eligibility timeline, or a medical claim of any kind. Once you fill in a real student's name, the tracker, class grid and team note (pages 17, 18 and 19) do carry real information — keep completed pages secure the same way you would any other record.

Something missing or wrong?

Please use the **Ask a Question** tab on the product page first — every question is read, and a fix to the file is a free update you re-download from **My Purchases**.

WHAT'S NEXT FROM THIS STORE

More science for the same classroom, plus vocabulary probes.



Body Systems Worksheets

The six body systems: label, match, sort and explain, grades 6-8.



Photosynthesis Worksheets

Diagram, sort, fill in and short answer for a plant science unit, grades 6-8.



Content Area Vocabulary: Science and Social Studies

Progress-monitoring probes for science and social studies words, grades 4-6.

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