

Appendix B

Assessment Questions and Sample Verbatim¹ Pre- and Post-workshop Answers*Brain Structure and Function*

1. What parts of the brain do you know about?

Pre: I do not know.

Post: madulla, parietal lobe, frontal lobe, occipital lobe, temper lobe

2. What is a neuron and what does it do?

Pre: I do not know!

Post: A neuron is a cell that sends messages (brain transmitter)

3. Describe the brain.

Pre: The brain looks like a jelly bean but bigger and juicier. It is pink and helps you keep track of stuff you need to remember. Also it is stripped like a zebra but not black stripes.

Post: The brains color is more lik peach/gray mixed together with other different colors.

It is almost the size of 5 tennis balls together. Its weight is 3 lb.

4. What happens in your brain when you learn something?

Pre: Why are you asking me? I know nothing.

Post: It gets stored in the temporal lobe.

Brain Damage and Disorders

5. If someone's brain isn't working properly, how can you tell?

Pre: You can tell if someone's brain isn't working is by the way their acting or the way they think.

Post: A doctor can scan the brain and show pictures or by the way you act.

¹ Responses are transcribed verbatim; errors are uncorrected.

6. Do you know about any problems with the brain?

Pre: As a matter of fact I do my mother told me about mentally retarded kids and she said they can think very little and have problems with their brain.

Post: Yes, I do know brain damage, mental head problems and when your unconscience.

7. If someone has something wrong with their brain is there anything that can help them?

Pre: I don't know if there is maybe a treatment.

Post: Yes, medicine, yoga, and therapy

8. How can doctors and scientists see inside the brain?

Pre: They could use x-rays, surgeres.

Post: They use something like a x-ray, but it doesn't take pictures of your bones it takes pictures of your brain and other stuff that are not bones.

9. How can a head injury (e.g., falling off your bike without your helmet on) affect your brain?

Pre: You could make your head get a hole or make your head bleed.

Post: It can paralyze you. It can make you stutter a lot. You forget things

Perception and Illusions

10. Why do we sometimes make mistakes in what we see?

Pre: the brain tricks us into seeing things we want to see instead of what is actually there.

Post: Things can fool our eyes or we focuse on one thing and don't see another for what it really is.

11. Is your brain more like a camera or a computer? Explain why you think that.

Pre: it's like a computer just like a computer takes you to some place your brain does the same thing,

Post: A computer because it solves and thinks just like a computer.

12. What are some ways the brain can be tricked?

Pre: Some ways are like when you think someone is nice your brain will just say yes to go with the person.

Post: Some ways our brain can be tricked is by illusions. Illusions are things that your brain can sometimes not see.

13. Does everybody see things the same way? Explain what you mean.

Pre: I don't know. *Post:* No, because people have different way's of seeing things.

Drugs and Hormones

14. What are drugs and hormones? Are they the same or different?

Pre: Drugs are medicine that make you forget things. *Post:* different. drugs you take hormones are in you. Hormones say when it's time to sleep, eat, rest room and wake up.

15. What happens in your brain when you take bad drugs?

Pre: Your brain gets confused and out of sort.

Post: You forget things and you make poor decisions and your brain tells you, that you want more.

16. Are all drugs bad for your brain? Explain what you mean.

Pre: No, some drugs are medicine.

Post: No, some drugs can help you, like medicines and some drugs are just bad for certain parts of your body.

17. Why is it even more dangerous to take bad drugs when you are a teenager?

Pre: It can ruin your intelligence, your career, and it can kill you fast.

Post: Your brain is still devolping and drugs can effect that devolpment.