

Module

The New Science of Addiction: Genetics and the Brain

Drugs of Abuse

Abstract

An optional worksheet to use in conjunction with the interactive online activity of the same title located in *The New Science of Addiction: Genetics and the Brain* module on our website ([url above](http://learn.genetics.utah.edu)). Students learn about the short and long-term effect of a number of drugs of abuse.

Learning Objectives

- ▶ Drugs of abuse have a variety of origins, physical effects and medical consequences.

Logistics

Time Required

▶ **Class Time:**
25 minutes

▶ **Prep Time:**
10 minutes

Materials

Student handouts, computers with internet access

Prior Knowledge Needed

None

Appropriate For:

Primary Intermediate Secondary College

Adaptation

If short on time:

- Divide the class in half.
- Ask one half to view and fill in the information for the first six drugs of abuse covered in the online activity.
- Ask the other half to view and fill in the information for the remaining six drugs of abuse.
- Provide time for students from different halves of the class to exchange answers.

Credits

Molly Malone, Genetic Science Learning Center
Pete Anderson, Genetic Science Learning Center (illustrations)

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Drugs of Abuse

Answer Key

Drug	Effect
Alcohol	Loss of coordination; impaired reasoning, balance, speech and judgement; slow reaction time
Anabolic Steroids	Muscle growth, heart attacks, strokes, hair loss, genital shrinking, acne
Cocaine	Increase in energy, decrease in appetite, disturbance in heart rhythm, nausea, respiratory failure, strokes and seizures
Dissociative Drugs	Disconnect from reality, convulsions, coma, high fever, death
GHB & Rohypnol	Relaxing effect, muscle growth, seizures, loss of consciousness, death, coma
Hallucinogens	Hallucinations, several emotions, dilated pupils, increase in body temperature, increase in heart rate, sweating, loss of appetite, sleeplessness, dry mouth, tremors
Heroin	Rush of pleasure, severe drowsiness, nausea, vomiting, severe itching
Inhalants	Permanent brain damage, sudden death
Marijuana	Peaceful and euphoric sensation, slow reaction time, impairs memory and attention span, affects coordination and balance
MDMA	Energizing effect, distortion in perception and time, chills, muscle cramping, teeth clenching, reduction in mental abilities
Methamphetamine	Mental alertness, increase in energy and body temperature, convulsions, violent behavior, anxiety, insomnia, paranoia, delusions and dependency
Nicotine	Stimulant or sedative, addiction

Name _____

Date _____

Drugs of Abuse

Visit the Drugs of Abuse activity at: <http://learn.genetics.utah.edu/units/addiction>
Fill out the effect of each drug below.

Drug	Effect
Alcohol	
Anabolic Steroids	
Cocaine	
Dissociative Drugs	
GHB & Rohypnol	
Hallucinogens	
Heroin	
Inhalants	
Marijuana	
MDMA	
Methamphetamine	
Nicotine	

