ALCOHOL AND YOUR DEVELOPING MEDULLA

Vocabulary Words

Medulla

One of the most important parts of the brain; the medulla controls breathing and heart functioning. The medulla is part of the brainstem.

Brainstem

The brainstem connects the rest of the brain to the spinal cord and helps control basic body functions like breathing, swallowing, blood pressure.

Cardiovascular system

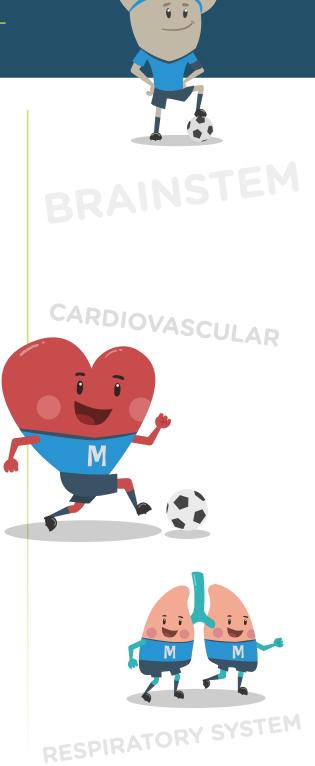
Also known as the circulatory system, the cardiovascular system is responsible for delivering blood throughout the body, which provides oxygen and nutrients to all of our cells. The heart is the most important organ within the cardiovascular system, responsible for pumping blood throughout the body.

Respiratory system

This system regulates your breathing. It includes the nose, throat, windpipe, voice box, and lungs.

Alcohol poisoning

The sometimes deadly overdose of alcohol; it occurs when there is so much alcohol in the body that the areas of the brain that control basic life-sustaining functions, like the medulla, begin to shut down.



To learn more about teaching units on the impacts of underage drinking and peer pressure, see additional lessons from *Ask, Listen, Learn*

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