Pipe Cleaner Neuron

**\*DIRECTIONS:**

1. CELL BODY: Take one pipe cleaner and roll it into a ball.

(whole pipe cleaner)

1. AXON: Take another pipe cleaner and attach it to the new “cell body” by pushing it through the ball so there are two halves sticking out. Take the two halves and twist them together into a single extension.

(whole pipe cleaner)

1. DENDRITES: Take two short pieces of pipe cleaners and push them through the “cell body” on the side opposite the axon.

(1/3 length of pipe cleaner; use 2 of the same color)

1. MYELIN SHEATH: Wrap four tiny pieces of pipe cleaners evenly spaced along the length of the axon.

(1/8 length of pipe cleaner; use 4 of the same color)

1. SYNAPTIC TERMINAL: Wrap small piece of pipe cleaner on the end of the axon.

(1/4 length of pipe cleaner)

**\*POINTERS:**

1. Prepare the pipe cleaners before the lesson. Cut them to the appropriate sizes and separate them into different bags to be more efficient during the lesson.
2. Make sure that students choose different colors for all five parts.
3. Explain what each part does while the students are adding it to their neurons.