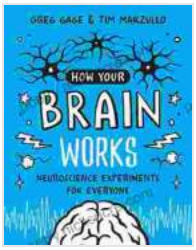
How Your Brain Works: Neuroscience Experiments for Everyone

Neuroscience is the scientific study of the nervous system. It includes the study of the brain, spinal cord, and nerves. Neuroscience is a vast field that encompasses many different disciplines, including anatomy, physiology, pharmacology, and psychology. In recent years, neuroscience has made great strides in understanding how the brain works. This article will provide an overview of some of the most important neuroscience experiments for everyone.



How Your Brain Works: Neuroscience Experiments for Everyone by Walter Mischel

4.5 out of 5

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Screen Reader	: Supported
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The Neuron

The neuron is the basic unit of the nervous system. Neurons are specialized cells that transmit information throughout the body. They are composed of a cell body, dendrites, and an axon. The cell body contains the nucleus of the neuron. Dendrites are short, branching extensions of the cell body that receive information from other neurons. The axon is a long,

slender extension of the cell body that transmits information to other neurons.

Synapses

Synapses are the connections between neurons. They are located at the end of the axon of one neuron and the dendrite of another neuron. When an electrical signal reaches the end of an axon, it causes the release of neurotransmitters. Neurotransmitters are chemicals that bind to receptors on the dendrite of another neuron, causing an electrical signal to be generated in that neuron.

Neurotransmitters

Neurotransmitters are chemicals that are released by neurons to transmit information to other neurons. There are many different types of neurotransmitters, each with its own unique function. Some of the most important neurotransmitters include glutamate, GABA, dopamine, and serotonin.

Brain Regions

The brain is divided into many different regions, each with its own unique function. Some of the most important brain regions include the cerebral cortex, the cerebellum, and the brainstem.

Cerebral Cortex

The cerebral cortex is the outermost layer of the brain. It is responsible for higher-level functions such as thinking, language, and memory.

Cerebellum

The cerebellum is located at the back of the brain. It is responsible for coordination and balance.

Brainstem

The brainstem is located at the base of the brain. It controls vital functions such as breathing, heart rate, and blood pressure.

Neuroscience Experiments

There have been many important neuroscience experiments throughout history. Some of the most famous include:

The Broca-Wernicke Experiments

In the 1860s, Paul Broca and Carl Wernicke conducted a series of experiments on patients with language disorders. They found that damage to the left frontal lobe of the brain impaired speech production (Broca's aphasia),while damage to the left temporal lobe impaired language comprehension (Wernicke's aphasia).

The Wilder Penfield Experiments

In the 1930s, Wilder Penfield conducted a series of experiments on patients with epilepsy. He used electrical stimulation to map the sensory and motor areas of the brain. This research helped to establish the somatosensory and motor homunculi, which are maps of the body in the brain.

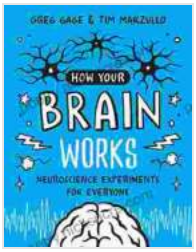
The Sperry Split-Brain Experiments

In the 1960s, Roger Sperry conducted a series of experiments on split-brain patients. These patients had their corpus callosum, which is the

bundle of fibers that connects the two hemispheres of the brain, severed. Sperry's experiments showed that the two hemispheres of the brain can function independently of each other.

These are just a few of the many important neuroscience experiments that have been conducted throughout history. Neuroscience research is ongoing, and we are constantly learning more about how the brain works.

The brain is a complex and fascinating organ. Neuroscience experiments have helped us to understand how the brain works, but there is still much that we do not know. Continued research in neuroscience will help us to better understand the brain and its role in health and disease.



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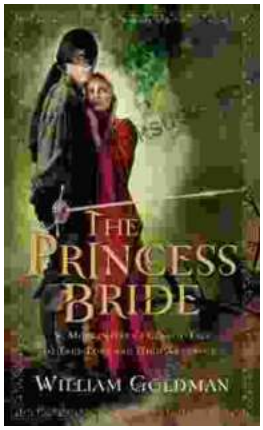

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