# Epilepsy Connections: Curious About the Body Virtual Festival

# Making a neuron model using pipe cleaners – text to accompany short video film

Welcome to this short film on making a neuron model with pipe cleaners.

All you need is 5 differently-coloured pipe cleaners – so let’s get started.

Just remember to be careful as the ends of pipe cleaners can be JAGGY!

1. Take your first pipe cleaner, and roll it into a ball shape. This is the CELL BODY.
2. Then, with your second pipe cleaner, thread it through the cell body ball, but stop half-way along. You should get two halves of the pipe cleaner sticking out each side of the cell body ball. Now, take these two halves, and twist them around each other. This long, twisted section is the AXON.
3. We now go back to the top end of the neuron, to the cell body. With the third pipe cleaner, push it through the cell body ball, then twist and twirl it around. These are the DENDRITES.
4. And onto the fourth pipe cleaner, which is wrapped around the long, thin AXON. This is the MYELIN SHEATH, which protects the electrical signal as it travels down the AXON.
5. Last of all, the fifth pipe cleaner. This is wrapped around the end of the AXON – the AXON TERMINAL.

And there you have it – your very own NEURON!

What message are you going to send with it?