

Xander Karkruff
Young Audience Writing Samples
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Copy for graphic design label project

I'm a three-toed sloth. I do everything really slowly. I eat slowly. I digest slowly. It takes me an entire day to climb down my tree, to use the bathroom at the bottom (fortunately I only need to go once a week). I move so slowly that algae grows on my water-absorbent hair. This gives me a lovely greenish tinge, which helps me to hide in the green rainforest canopy.

Copy for Design/Development project "Brainstorm!"

Panel Title: Your brain is the boss of your body

Twitch your nose. Wiggle Your toes. Stick out your tongue. High five a friend.

Now ask yourself, how does your brain tell your body what to do?

Here's the shock: your brain communicates with electricity! The billions of cells that make up your brain are called neurons. When a neuron fires, it is sending an electrical message from Point A to Point B.

The electrical charge jumps from neuron to neuron in a chain reaction until it reaches its destination. (Think of the way dominoes fall when you knock one down.)

(Sidebar, with image of illustration of neurons by Otto Friedrich Karl Deiters, 1865)

The image below, drawn by Otto Friedrich Karl Deiters in 1865, is one of the first illustrations to describe parts of a neuron. Neurons are specially-designed cells that transmit messages between your brain and nervous system.

What does this branching structure remind you of?