

## CSSRC Resource Review

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**Review Date:** 10/23/13

**Name/Title:** Brain Power! Challenge

**Author:** National Institutes of Health (NIH), National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA)

**Media Type:** (Book, CD, Flyer, Poster, Website, etc)

**Publisher/Supplier:** National Institutes of Health (NIH), National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA)

**Publication Date:** originally 2001, updated periodically through 2012

**Re-order Source:** <http://drugpubs.drugabuse.gov/publication-series/brain-power>

**Language:** English

### Usefulness Rating:

1. Excellent
2. Good XX
3. Fair
4. Poor
5. Rated by: (CSSRC staff member) Alice
6. Comments:
  - a. There are four different curricula sets for different age groups: for K and 1<sup>st</sup> grades, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grades, for 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grades, and for 6<sup>th</sup> through 9<sup>th</sup> grades.
  - b. Included in the curriculum for each set are:
    - i. Teacher's guide
    - ii. Rubric aligning the content with National Science Education Standards
    - iii. Handout and diagrams
    - iv. Activities
    - v. Classroom posters
    - vi. Additional resources, website addresses for teachers and students
    - vii. Parent newsletters, in English and Spanish that complement each module
  - c. DVDs are included with the curricula for younger students that contain episodic videos supporting the content. Sadly the DVDs will not play correctly in my computer. However, the stories are printed and included in the teacher materials for the teacher to read if a DVD player is not available.
  - d. The DVD included with the 6<sup>th</sup> through 9<sup>th</sup> curriculum contains fun games for students to explore, challenge, and reinforce the material they have been learning. Printable certificates of achievement are available after completing module sections.
  - e. It would be nice if the materials were available electronically on the NIDA website or provided on disks for reprinting. Curricula kits contain only one set of materials, which would be exhausted in one year of use. Currently entire kits can be ordered, but there



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are no refill materials available on the website. Some of the materials are not easily photocopied for future use.

**Category:** (Prevention, Preparedness, Response, Recovery, Promotional Item) Prevention

**Topic:** (Bullying, Substance Abuse, Threat Assessment, etc) Substance Abuse

**Audience:** (Administrators, Counselors/Psychologists/Social Workers, Emergency Responders, Health Professionals/Nurses, Law Enforcement/SROs/Security, Parents, Teachers, Other School Personnel) students

**Intended Age Group:** (pre-K, elementary, middle, high, higher education) elementary and middle school

**Cost:** 0

**Additional Comments:** These curricula align with the Colorado science standards, particularly in life sciences, as enumerated by the Colorado Department of Education:

<http://www.cde.state.co.us/coscience/statestandards>.

While not tested in order to be evidence-based, these curricula do align with the Colorado Comprehensive Health and Physical Education Standards. Learning about the effects of drugs enables students to apply knowledge and skills to make health-enhancing decisions regarding the use of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs, which is included in Standard 4: Prevention and Risk Management in Health.

<http://www2.cde.state.co.us/scripts/allstandards/COStandards.asp?stid=3&glid=0&pgcid=38>

