

Think & Believe

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Teaching Our Brains to Think

by Dave & Mary Jo Nutting

Our brains are tremendously designed control centers that do more than any computer has ever done. It should be obvious

after reading this issue of *Think & Believe* why our brains could not have evolved through chance processes. However, there is a significant part of our society that is trying to convince us that

there is no Creator and that brains were not designed. This is having devastating effects on us and our children. Many unknowingly begin to accept this non-God bias.

The verse that keeps coming back to us time and again is Colossians 2:8 which says: *"Beware lest any man spoil you [take you captive] through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ."* According to this, there is a battle for our minds, but fortunately, there is something we can actively do to keep ourselves and our children from falling prey (or perhaps even rescue them from the mire).

According to Romans 1, God's power and divine nature are clearly seen through His creation, so there is no excuse for unbelief. The

evidence is all around us. However, we can be taken captive and led astray from this truth by evolutionary interpretations of the evidence (or

by an unwillingness to honor God as God and give Him thanks). Taking people back to the truth of God's Word in creation can help prevent casualties and rescue others who have already been taken captive.

We are reminded

of the words of a man we met who was an atheist before hearing the creation message: "The evidence you presented blew my mind. I'm not sure you know it, but you are leaving a trail of blown minds all across the country." He became a believer and a strong advocate of the creation teaching which God used to rescue him from the mire of evolution and unbelief.

II Corinthians 10:5 is a key to keep us from being taken captive. It says, *"[We are] casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ."*

That is an active faith, not a passive one. This is done through much prayer and actively teaching the truth of creation, the truth of God's Word, and the truth of God's character.

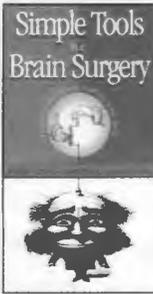
In Mark 12:30, Jesus says to love God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength. How can we love God with all our mind if our thinking is filtered through a world-taught, frequently anti-God, evolutionary bias? Romans 12:2 says *"be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God."* Let's break out of the world's mold and actively teach ourselves and our children to use our marvelously-designed brains to honor, praise, and thank our great Creator God. **T&B**

"The evidence you presented blew my mind. I'm not sure you know it, but you are leaving a trail of blown minds all across the country." (A former atheist)



Tools for Brain Surgery

by Andrea Korow



Doesn't medical training take years of long, hard work? It sure does! But if you watch this video you will want to try Bill Jack's "surgical tools" to

get into someone else's head, or rather, find out their worldview. Hopefully, you can plant a few gospel seeds or at least allow them to consider the alternatives to their worldview.

This video can be used in a variety of ways. First, it will help you define your own beliefs and worldview. Second, it will give you a starting point from which to begin a discussion, and third, it will help you develop your own critical or logical thinking skills.

This video is for all serious

thinkers but also entertaining enough for an average junior higher. Humor is used throughout to help portray effective as well as non-effective approaches.

Jack's little black bag of four "killer" questions will be a great help in keeping dialogs going since nearly everyone on the face of the earth wants to meaningfully share *his or her* ideas or opinions. If you really like communicating, or even if you lack the confidence to talk with people, these "surgical questions" will probably be the coolest item you've added to your verbal toolbox in a long time.

Jack provides an excellent training ground for communications and developing critical thinking. As you begin to try out the questions, you will be challenged to really think about and listen to what the person you are speaking with has to say. Talking with a vocal atheist or agnostic can be a

little scary at times, but with practice you will find you can make some major inroads to get people to really think about the shaky foundation and consequences of their world-view.

This video is quite interesting—not dry and lifeless. Jack uses a very effective teaching method. He teaches, trains and then shows real life interviews with an atheist and a secular humanist.

Jack also admits that his surgery techniques are not fool-proof or at times easy. But you will find that with practice, you can destroy sloppy, secular arguments without destroying the person.

Are you ready to practice a little medicine? You can order your own "little black bag" with the special response form enclosed, or call (970)-523-9943, or visit:

www.discovercreation.org 

Mind Boggling Brain Facts

by Dr. Dan Korow

- Weighs only **2-3 pounds**
- **Compactly designed** to fit inside the human skull
- Contains about **10 billion neurons**, and **100 billion glial cells**
- Has an estimated **100 trillion synapses** (neuron interconnections)
- Performs **10¹⁵ computations** per second
- Holds at least **10¹⁴ bits** (binary digits) of information
- Potential brain capacity is estimated at **20 million books**- filling a **500 mile bookshelf**
- **Filters irrelevant stimuli** or information from important data
- Directs and controls sequential brain activity like a **"Central Programming Unit"**
- **Recalls** facts and events
- **Recognizes** objects and faces
- **Remembers** navigational routes
- **Reasons, plans & solves** complex **problems**
- **Comprehends** written & verbal **languages**
- **Develops** & fine tunes **grammatical** & pronunciation **skills**
- **Appreciates** visual **beauty** & the musical **arts**
- Intimately associated with **emotional states**, morals, and behaviors
- **Regulates** & coordinates **tissue function** from the cellular level leading to muscle activity
- Initiates **innovative** and **creative** activity
- Senses **humor**
- **Integrates** all the above features and yet functions as one unit!

Aren't you glad you don't have to think about doing all of that? If computers, which can't do a fraction of these functions, can't happen by accident, how could the brain be merely a product of time and chance? 

Think about it:

According to the late atheist, Isaac Asimov, the human brain is the "most complex and orderly arrangement of matter in the universe."

The Human Brain Evolved? That's Inconceivable!

by Dr. Dan Korow

We've been told that the mindless process of evolution produced a thinking brain over billions of years. Yet today's brightest scientists and their greatest technological advances are still incapable of duplicating the human brain's awesome potential. They concede that the computer on our shoulders is still the very best one in the universe.

On June 28, 2000, IBM proudly announced their newest and most powerful super computer, "ASCI White." They proclaimed that it performs 12.3 trillion operations per second. It has 8,192 microprocessors, and is 1000 times more powerful than their prior computer, "ASCI Blue." It covers 9,920 square feet of floor space, spanning an equivalent of two NBA Basketball Courts, and weighs a mere 106 tons. This is pretty massive!

But how does this technological achievement compare to the mere 2 or 3 pound, compact, human brain? The Associated Press reported "[IBM's] latest machine is intended to continue the advance toward matching and eventually surpassing the computing capacity of the human brain."¹ Did you catch that? Compared to the world's greatest super computer, the human brain remains superior. If computers don't happen by accident, neither can the brain!

I believe God alone should be given due credit as the Grand Designer, and Creator of all things.

This self evident truth is ever present in every day routine activities.

Consider the "simple process" of reading this article. In less than a 1/5 of a second, the title word "Inconceivable" is directed from this article to our amazing eye, then to the front of the brain's left hemisphere. Now begins the interpretation of its meaning! At the very same time, a different frontal brain region considers other

potential meanings. Still within this first second, after the frontal region has applied a meaning, a back region of the left hemisphere becomes active. It's then believed that the individual meaning of the word is harmonized within the context of the phrase, or sentence.²

Sentence reading is an even more incredibly complex process.

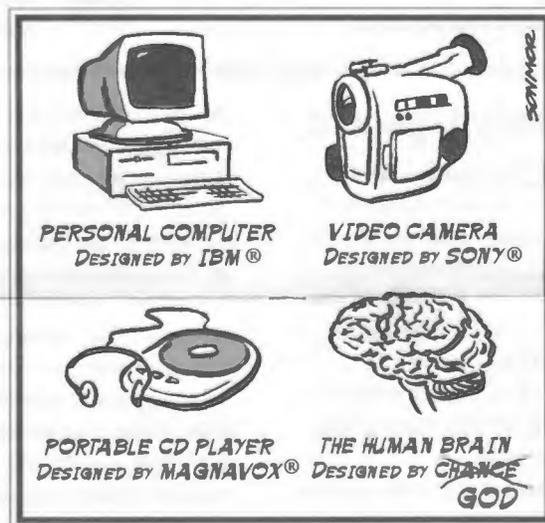
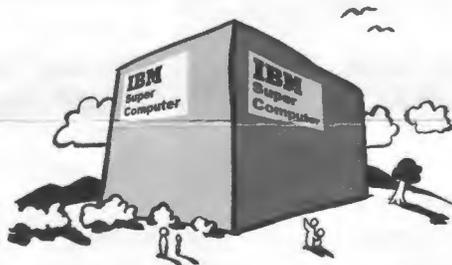
Please never again say, "I'm just, simply reading." Instead, give God the glory for His wise design.

The brain also enhances reading comprehension by suppressing useless stimuli from even entering into the mind. For example, background noise and the constant stimulation of clothing touching our skin is routinely ignored. Incredibly, 99% of all sensory information is rejected as insignificant and warrants no response.³ Only when important information is

perceived are the impulses channeled to the appropriate regions in the brain.

Lastly, the brain is also programmed with a "rerouting format" that makes it far superior to any known computer. Science News explains, "...the brain maintains a distinct advantage over the computer—resilience. When crucial interactions between neurons falter, the brain reroutes signals in an attempt to maintain the ability to think, remember, and perceive." In the same article, neurologist and computer scientist, James Reggia, of the University of Maryland in College Park says, "When you damage just one small part of the computer, the whole thing will collapse. The brain is very different. It is able to adjust its own circuitry."⁴

It is inconceivable to praise evolution for the brain's formation, or it's ability to monitor, maintain, and regulate all the bodily functions. The precious gift of memory and the tremendous variety of brain functions testifies of an all knowing, all wise, Creator and Savior. To Him alone, should we devote our hearts, and dedicate our minds. **T&B**



¹Big Blue Announces Big, Fast Computer, Associated Press, D. Ian Hopper, The Colorado Springs Gazette, June 29, 2000.

²Science News, Making Cerebral Sense of Words, March 11, 1995, vol.147, No. 10, p.157

³Textbook of Medical Physiology, Guyton, 1981, pp.560-561

⁴Mimicking the Brain; Using computers to investigate neurological disorders, Science News, July 22, 1995, Vol.148, No. 4, p.62

CREATION MOUNTAIN ADVENTURES

Join us!

REDCLOUD 1

June 24-29, 2001

A gorgeous location near Lake City, Colorado. This specific week of Redcloud is geared for families with teens and upper elementary children.

TWIN PEAKS

July 1-6, 2001

A picturesque camp nestled in an alpine forest on Colorado's beautiful Grand Mesa. Great for all ages!

REDCLOUD 2

Aug 12-17, 2001

Families with kids of any age will experience God's creation while enjoying all the professionally guided activities and interacting with the presentations.

Creation Mountain Adventures

are real vacations with a purpose. Not only do you get a tremendous

mountain vacation but also a complete **Creation seminar**. AOI's popular speakers give you the evidence for Creation, the problems with evolution, and the importance of the issue. That, coupled with field trips, exciting activities in God's splendid Creation and one-on-one fellowship with the teaching staff, gives a tremendous Creation vacation.

Children's programs are a fun and educational part of most camps. Puppet shows, crafts, demonstrations, slide-talks, and hands-on science activities all combine to help campers ages 4-10 understand the truth of creation.

Although most children understand and enjoy the adult

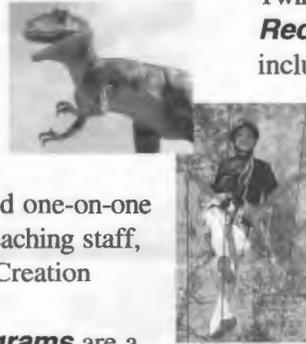
seminars, families with younger children are encouraged to attend Twin Peaks or Redcloud 2.

Recreation at both camps includes hiking, fishing and other outdoor activities. Twin Peaks campers will enjoy fossil hunting and a guided tour of Dinosaur Journey Museum and Colorado National Monument. Those at Camp Redcloud can take part in the ropes course, rappelling,

rock climbing, horseback riding, canoeing, 4 wheel drive and 6x6 trips, mountain biking, and more.

For more information and brochure, call: **(970) 523-9943**. For color pictures and extensive descriptions, find us on the web at:

www.disovercreation.org.



Elk Creek Update



For many years God has been leading us to train others to spread the creation message.

While training those that God has sent to us, we have begun working toward development of Elk Creek Ranch to multiply our efforts. The need for this training and retreat center is great.

The provisions of the 1998 contract with the land donor placed us under certain obligations before the title would be conveyed to AOI. Unfortunately, the financial backing to meet these obligations was not raised within

the allotted three-year period, and thus our contract expired on March 1. Although we continue to train limited numbers of interns, we find ourselves far short of our goal to train many more families and individuals.

As this goes to press, we are in the midst of re-negotiating the contract. The landowner is willing to work with us under certain conditions. **Please pray** that our focus stays true to God's plans and that He will provide the needed finances and people to get this crucial center operating as soon as possible. If you know of someone who might like to help with this project or be part of a special prayer team for it, let us know. Thanks for praying. **Keep it up!**

Upcoming Events

March 12-24, Jackson Hole Bible College Field Study, 970-523-9943, D&MJN

March 21, Riverdale, UT, Christian Heritage School, 801-393-4475, RS and L&MJ

March 21-23, Roy, UT, Wasatch Evangelical Free Church: 801-731-7118, RS and L&MJ

March 25, Clearfield, UT, Layton Calvary Chapel, 801-779-1001, DN and L&MJ

March 25-27, Walsh, CO, Walsh Baptist Church, Pastor Andy Mooren, 719-324-5875 D&AK

March 28, Denver, CO, Colorado Comm. Church, Bill Browning: 303-843-9556, D&AK

April 20, 21, Grnd Jctn, CO, CHEC Conference, 970-243-5692, DN, D&AK, RS

April 28, Montrose, CO, San Juan Home Ed. Assoc., Marty Troutman 970-240-9132 L&MJ

April 29, Palisade, CO, Central Orchard Mesa Comm., Pastor Phil McIntosh, 970-434-7783 DK

May 13-15, Manitou Spgs, CO, Summit Min. Youth Leadership, Contact 719-685-9103 DN

May 17-20, Jackson Hole, WY, Home School Convention, 307-733-2838 Steve Munger, RS

May 27-30, Manitou Spgs, CO, Summit Min. Youth Leadership, Contact 719-685-9103 DN



ALPHA OMEGA INSTITUTE

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