

THE CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM

Brain anatomy and function

The brain can be divided into 3 levels

FOREBRAIN

- **Thalamus**
 - Takes in sensory information related to seeing, hearing, touching and tasting
- **Basal nuclei**
 - **Head of Caudate Nucleus**
 - **Tail of Caudate Nucleus**
 - **Lentiform Nucleus**
 - **Clastrum**

MIDBRAIN

- **Reticular activating system** (*send info throughout the brain to keep it "aroused"*)
- **Superior and Inferior Colliculi** (*receive visual and Auditory information from higher brain sensory centres and initiate reflex movements*)
- **Substantia Nigra** (*a neural system that controls the activity of motor centres in the forebrain that initiate movement*)

HINDBRAIN

Brainstem - *alertness and basic survival*

(*consists of 3*)

- **Medulla oblongata** **digestion**
- **Pons** **circulation**
- **Midbrain** **breathing**

Brainstem is responsible for routing and filtering information.

Central structure of the brain

Responsible for most unconscious behaviors

Only Pons and Cerebellum are components of the Hindbrain.

Cerebrum