Peripheral Nerve String Project

**Background:**

The primary function of a peripheral nerve is to transmit signals from the spinal cord to the rest of the body, or to transmit sensory information from the rest of the body to the spinal cord. For example, to flex a muscle, the brain sends a signal to the spinal cord that is received by a motor neuron in the spinal cord. This neuron sends the signal down an axon, which may be up to 3 feet long. This axon terminates in a muscle, where the impulse to flex is received. Once the muscle receives this signal, it flexes. The whole process requires only a fraction of a second to occur.

Some nerves in the body, such as the sciatic nerve, are quite large and can be over 1 centimeter in diameter. Other peripheral nerves are so small that they cannot be readily seen without magnification

**Objective:**

Know the location and anatomy of the major peripheral nerves, including each plexus, of the PNS.

**Materials:**

* Thread, string, or yarn (separated into single strand)

Yarn may not work if it curls and does not lay flat.

* Poster board, tag board, sturdy paper, cardboard (no folds or creases).

No NEON or bright yellow, orange, pink, magenta, etc.

Dimensions 30 cm x 45 cm (maximum); 30 cm x 22.5 (minimum) MEASURE it!

* Liquid Glue (glue stick will not work) See me if you need Elmer’s glue.
* Computer and lineless paper (for labels)

**Guidelines:**

1. Use string-like material to represent nerves (Test materials EARLY to make sure they will adhere to the paper)
2. Use paper that will support the glue and string.
3. Label the nerves AFTER the glue has dried. Labels may be typed, cut out then pasted onto the poster or handwritten. Use leader lines for nerves. Use bullets AND leader lines for bones. Leader lines must be straight (use a ruler). Leader lines do not have to be horizontal. If you choose to write the labels, they must be NEAT and legible.
4. Outline the body areas and the bones then add the nerves. Do not print any port of the body including a silhouette that INCLUDES nerves. You may NOT print a portion of the body that contains the nerves and paste the string on top of the paper.
5. ASK QUESTIONS! Feel free to email me at anytime or ask me at the BEGINNING of class during Project Q and A.
6. DO NOT PROSCRASTINATE! If you do, you will have to deal with Mr. Murphy!

**Information to Include:**

Poster should include the Cervical, Brachial, Lumbar and Sacral Plexuses and all nerves branching from each plexus.

Plexus = network of interconnecting nerves

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