



BUILD A NEURON

Make your own pipe cleaner neuron and discover how your brain sends messages

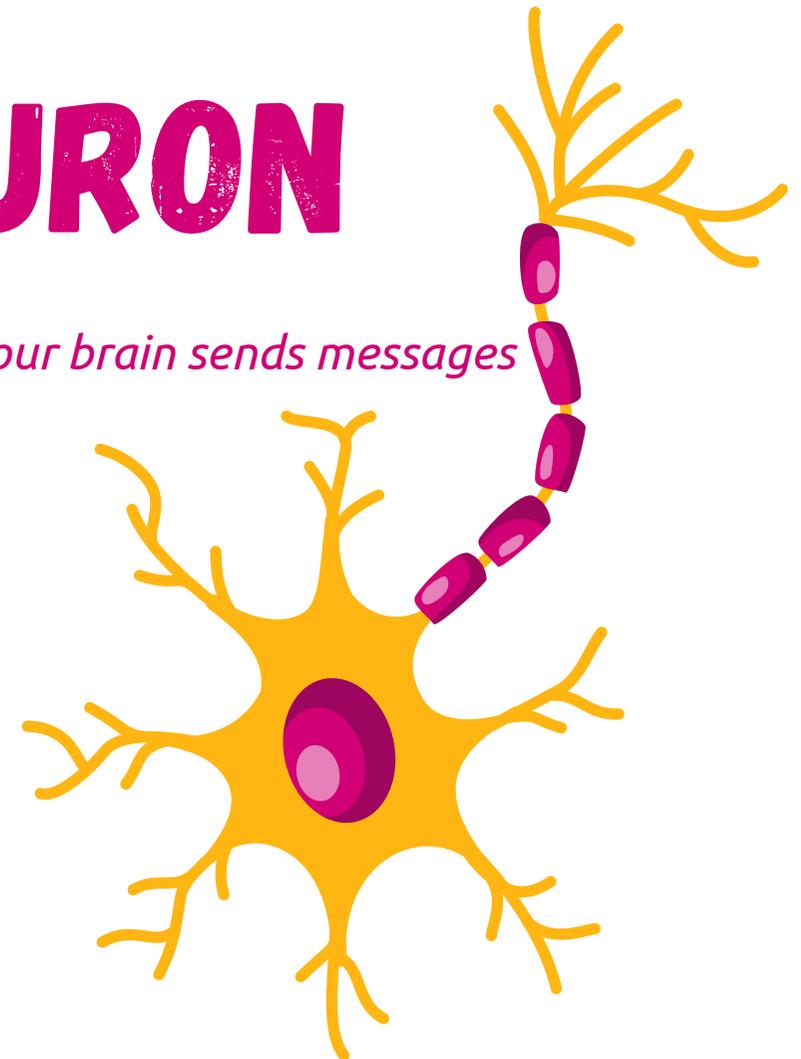
YOU WILL NEED...

7+ pipe cleaners

optional:

pony beads

pom pom



STEP 1:

Roll the pipe cleaner into a loose ball to make your neuron middle (**cell body**).



STEP 2:

Insert two pipe cleaners through the ball you have just created and fold them in half.



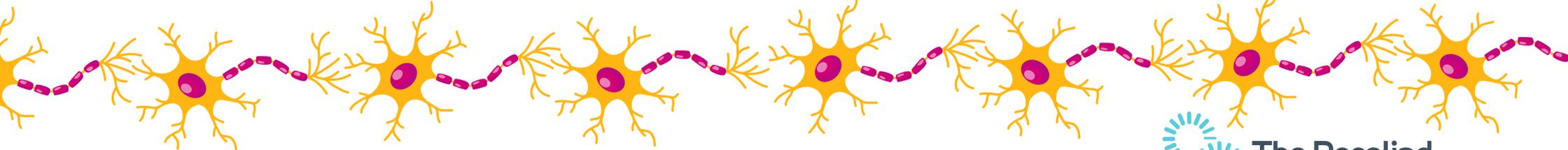
STEP 3:

Twist the pipe cleaner to create the tail **axon** and its jacket (**myelin sheath** - this helps the nervous signals go faster).

Optional: add pony beads to your axon to make an alternative myelin sheath

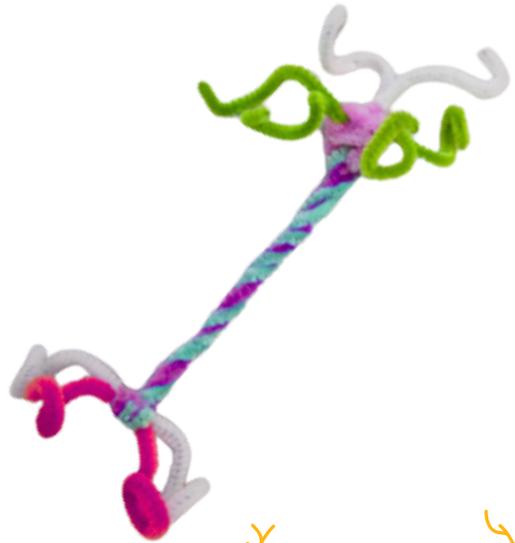
STEP 4:

With two pipe cleaners, create the message branches (**axon terminals**) and curl them around your fingers.



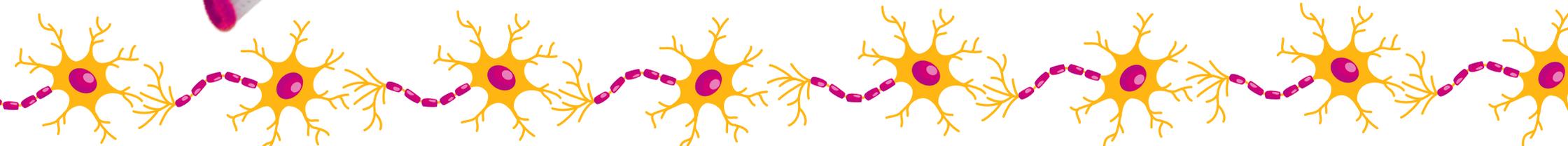
STEP 5:

Insert 2-3 pipe cleaners through the loose ball to create the listening branches (**dendrites**).

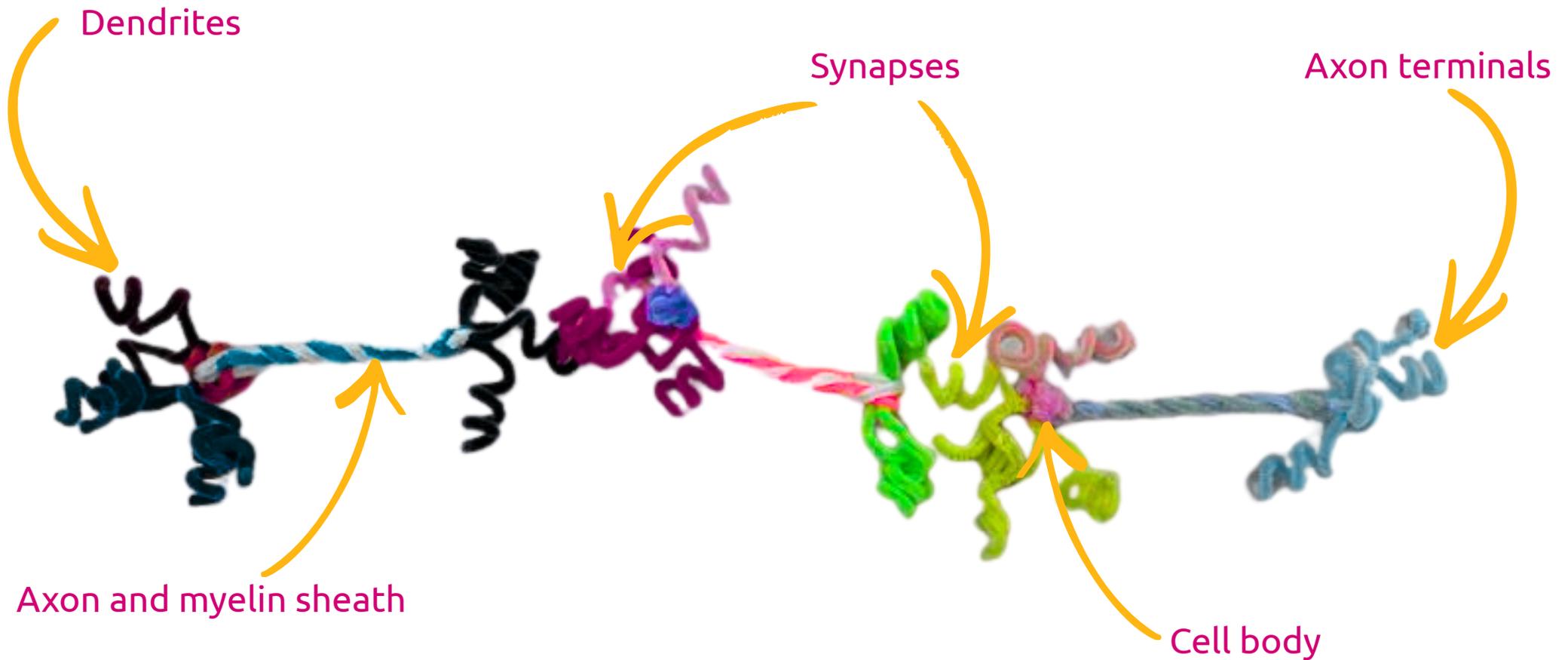


STEP 6:

Curl them around your fingers. You have created your own **neuron!**



Line multiple pipe cleaner neurons next to each other to create a neural circuit



Optional: pass a pom pom across your neurons to show how your brain sends messages

