

# Traumatic Brain Injury in Children and Youth: The Basics

*A list of internet resources to help you learn more about traumatic brain injury in children and youth*

Provided by the *Children & Youth Subcommittee* of the  
Brain & Spinal Injury Trust Fund Commission

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Want to learn more about traumatic brain injury (TBI) and how it affects children and youth?

Haven't got a lot of time?

We make it easy for you. We've compiled a list of some of the best resources that can give you a basic education about TBI and kids.

We've organized the resources according to five categories:

- For Children and Teens
- For Parents and Families
- For Teachers
- For Other Professionals
- For Policy Makers
- Prevention of TBI in children and youth

Still have questions? Contact us at: [bsitf-info@dhr.state.ga.us](mailto:bsitf-info@dhr.state.ga.us) or 404/651-5112.

*Note: The websites and resources listed here are provided to assist you in learning more about traumatic brain injury in children and youth. Their inclusion in the list does not constitute an endorsement of the website or resource on the part of the Brain & Spinal Injury Trust Fund Commission. The content of the websites and resources is the sole responsibility of its owners and authors. Any problems or questions regarding the content should be directed to the appropriate owner and/or author.*

*Updated: May 31, 2010*

## For Children and Teens

### **University of Washington**

<http://faculty.washington.edu/chudler/neurok.html>

"Neuroscience for Kids" is a website that was created by the University of Washington to help students and teachers learn about the nervous system.

Features:

- Fun games and activities to help you learn more about the brain

### **Think First**

[www.thinkfirst.org/home.asp](http://www.thinkfirst.org/home.asp)

The ThinkFirst National Injury Prevention Foundation offers a research-validated multi-level educational program that has reached over 8 million young people nationally and internationally. ThinkFirst programs educate young people about their personal vulnerability and the importance of making safe choices. The message is: You can have a fun-filled, exciting life, without hurting yourself if you "ThinkFirst." ThinkFirst has chapters throughout the United States and in other countries.

Features:

- Separate resource pages for kids, youth, and teens
- Fact sheets and prevention tips
- Links to local chapters for speakers
- Order form for educational products

### **Safe Kids USA**

[www.usa.safekids.org](http://www.usa.safekids.org)

Safe Kids USA is a member of Safe Kids Worldwide, a global network of organizations whose mission is to prevent accidental childhood injury, a leading killer of children 14 and under. More than 450 coalitions in 16 countries bring together health and safety experts, educators, corporations, foundations, governments and volunteers to educate and protect families.

Features:

- Under "Activities for Kids"
  - Coloring sheets, puzzles and more (free downloads)

### **Ability Online**

[www.ablelink.org/public/new/about\\_us.html](http://www.ablelink.org/public/new/about_us.html)

Ability Online is a free internet community where children and youth with disabilities can meet and chat with each other in "a virtual world that transcends boundaries and barriers." It provides many benefits to parents, family members and others who want to make a difference in enabling and enriching the lives of those they know and love.

Features:

- Under "About Us/FAQ"
  - Learn more about Ability Online and how to use it

- Under “Registration”
  - Register to become a member of Ability Online

## For Parents and Families

### **Brain Injury Association of New York**

[www.bianys.org/learnet](http://www.bianys.org/learnet)

LEARNet is a “problem-solving system and resource website” for teachers, clinicians, parents, and students developed by the Brain Injury Association of New York State. It is designed to “help identify useful procedures for helping students with brain injury in school and at home.”

#### Features:

- Special sections: “About the Brain,” “For Kids,” “For Parents,” and “For Teachers”
- “What Problems Have You Seen?”
- Tutorials and suggestions for interventions

### **National Resource Center for Traumatic Brain Injury**

[www.pubinfo.vcu.edu/pmrnc](http://www.pubinfo.vcu.edu/pmrnc)

The National Resource Center for Traumatic Brain Injury (NRCTBI) is designed to provide relevant, practical information for professionals, persons with brain injury, and family members. It was developed by the Virginia Commonwealth University’s Medical College of Virginia Campus.

#### Features:

- “Chat with Pat,” a forum for family members to ask questions about brain injury
- “Article Reprints,” including a wide variety of articles on topics such as “How to Talk with Your Child About Brain Injury”
- “FAQs,” which includes detailed information about the causes and effects of brain injury

### **Mount Sinai School of Medicine’s TBI Central**

[www.mssm.edu/tbicentral](http://www.mssm.edu/tbicentral)

TBI Central is a Web site of the Brain Injury Research Center (BIRC) at Mount Sinai, which conducts research on brain injury. The site provides diverse resources for professionals, people with TBI, and their family members.

#### Features:

- Under “Resources/Publications:
  - “Students with Traumatic Brain Injury: Identification, Assessment, and Classroom Accommodations”
  - “Underachieving Students”
- Under “Resources”
  - FAQs - addresses a variety of questions about mild, moderate, and severe brain injuries; the school system; impact on families; etc.

### **National Dissemination Center of Children with Disabilities**

<http://www.nichcy.org/educatechildren/supports/Pages/default.aspx>

The National Dissemination Center of Children with Disabilities uses funding from the U.S. Department of Education to provide information on children and youth with disabilities, including information about education services, laws and practices.

Features:

- Under “Families and Community”
  - “Finding Services for Children and Youth”
  - “Understanding the Laws”
  - “Especially for Families”
- Under “Educate Children (3 – 22)” (on left-side menu bar)
  - “Q&A Series on IDEA”
  - “All About the IEP”
  - “Supports, Modifications, and Accommodations for Students”
  - “Resolving Disputes Between Parents and Schools”

### **Brain Injury Association of New Jersey**

[www.bianj.org](http://www.bianj.org)

The Brain Injury Association of New Jersey provides support and advocacy for individuals affected by brain injury and raises public awareness through education and prevention. Their website includes guides on brain injury for families, educators, and others.

Features:

- Under “Publications/Publications on Brain Injury”
  - Acute Brain Injury: A Guide for Family and Friends
  - Acute Brain Injury: A Guide for Educators
  - Acute Brain Injury: A Guide for Families About School

### **Parent to Parent of Georgia**

[www.parenttoparentofga.org](http://www.parenttoparentofga.org)

Parent to Parent of Georgia provides support and information to parents of children with disabilities. Their resources include a database of over 4,500 resources, emotional support, reading material, support groups, Early Intervention Programs, and conferences and other special events.

Features:

- “Roadmap to Services:” an extensive web-based list of resources for families of children with disabilities
- “Support:” information to receive free telephone peer support (for parents who live in Georgia)
- “Information:” a comprehensive database of over 4,000 resources
- “Education:” Parent Training Information Center

### **Concord SEPAC**

[www.concordspedpac.org](http://www.concordspedpac.org)

The Concord Special Education Parents Advisory Committee is a system wide volunteer organization in Concord, Massachusetts. Its website provides a variety of information and resources on the education of children with disabilities.

Features:

- Under “IEP” (on the left-side menu bar)
  - Under “Accommodations”
    - Legal definitions of accommodations and examples of classroom use
- Under “Other Student Documentation” (on the left-side menu bar)
  - Under “504”
    - Explanation of Section 504 and its implications for students with disabilities

**YouTube.com – “Coping with Brain Injury and School Success”**

[www.youtube.com/watch?v= h5MvB0SdYg](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h5MvB0SdYg)

This YouTube video contains an interview with Dr. Wayne Gordon (Mt. Sinai School of Medicine) and Kathy Olson (parent of a child with brain injury). It provides suggestions for how to support children with brain injury in schools.

Additional Resources:

**Brain Injury Association of Georgia**

[www.braininjurygeorgia.org/](http://www.braininjurygeorgia.org/)

**My Child Has a Brain Injury**

[www.mychildhasabraininjury.com](http://www.mychildhasabraininjury.com)

**About Brain Injury: A Glossary of Terms**

[www.waiting.com/glossary.html](http://www.waiting.com/glossary.html)

**The Perspectives Network**

[www.tbi.org](http://www.tbi.org)

**Centers for Disease Control**

[www.cdc.gov/ncipc/tbi/TBI.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/ncipc/tbi/TBI.htm)

[www.cdc.gov/actearly](http://www.cdc.gov/actearly)

**Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta**

[www.choa.org/default.aspx?id=497](http://www.choa.org/default.aspx?id=497)

**Brain Injury Partners**

[www.braininjurypartners.com](http://www.braininjurypartners.com)

**Public Broadcasting System**

[www.pbs.org/wnet/brain/3d/](http://www.pbs.org/wnet/brain/3d/)

**Washington Department of Social and Health Services**

<http://www.tbiwashington.org/>

**Defense and Veterans Brain Injury Center**

<http://www.brainline.org/index.html>

**Sports Concussion**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yIqZDbk3M40>

## For Teachers

### **Brain Injury Association of New York**

[www.bianys.org/learnet](http://www.bianys.org/learnet)

LEARNet is a “problem-solving system and resource website” for teachers, clinicians, parents, and students developed by the Brain Injury Association of New York State. It is designed to “help identify useful procedures for helping students with brain injury in school and at home.”

#### Features:

- Under “For Teachers”
  - “Traumatic Brain Injury: A Guidebook for Educators”
- Under “What Problems Have You Seen?”
  - Extensive list of problems listed according to 3 categories: “at school,” “in home,” and “social life”
  - Each problem is provided with an explanation of possible reasons for the problem as well as strategies for addressing it
- Under “Tutorials and Suggestions for Interventions”
  - Expanded information on many topics: assessment, cognitive/academic, self-regulation, etc.

### **Mount Sinai School of Medicine’s TBI Central**

[www.mssm.edu/tbicentral](http://www.mssm.edu/tbicentral)

TBI Central is a Web site of the Brain Injury Research Center (BIRC) at Mount Sinai, which conducts research on brain injury. The site provides diverse resources for professionals, people with TBI, and their family members.

#### Features:

- Under “Resources”
  - “Publications”
    - “Students with Traumatic Brain Injury: Identification, Assessment, and Classroom Accommodations”
    - “Underachieving Students”
  - “Technical Assistance”
    - “TBI in School Children”
    - “Developing a Mentoring Partnership Program”
    - “Brain Injury Screening”
    - “Personal Futures Planning”
  - “FAQs” - addresses a variety of questions about mild, moderate, and severe brain injuries; the school system; impact on families; etc.

### **National Dissemination Center of Children with Disabilities**

<http://www.nichcy.org/educatechildren/supports/Pages/default.aspx>

The National Dissemination Center of Children with Disabilities uses funding from the U.S. Department of Education to provide information on children and youth with disabilities, including information about education services, laws and practices.

#### Features:

- Under “Schools and Administrators”
  - “Specifics of IDEA”
  - “Especially for Teachers”
  - “Professional Development”
  - “Research in Education”
  - “Technical Assistance”
- Under “Educate Children (3 – 22)” (on left-side menu bar)
  - “Q&A Series on IDEA”
  - “All About the IEP”
  - “Supports, Modifications, and Accommodations for Students”
  - “Effective Practices in the Classroom and School”
  - “Resolving Disputes Between Parents and Schools”
  - “Transition to Adulthood”

**Tennessee Disability Organization: Project BRAIN**

<http://www.tndisability.org/brain/cd/ProjectBrain/mediaframeset.html>

[http://tndisability.org/coalition\\_programs/project\\_brain/](http://tndisability.org/coalition_programs/project_brain/)

Project BRAIN is a resource and training network for educators, families, and health care professionals who support students with traumatic brain injury (TBI). It was developed by the Tennessee Disability Coalition. The website features a virtual school, where each room provides information about supporting students with brain injuries.

Features:

- “The Nurse’s Office”
  - “Is it a concussion?” – information about mild TBI and concussion
- “Family Resource Center”
  - “Insights From Families and Professionals” – video interviews from families who have experienced traumatic brain injury
- “Classroom”
  - “What is Hypothesis Testing?” – learn how an educational team can identify and address brain injuries in students
  - “General Teaching Strategies”
  - “Attention, Organization, Memory, and Behavior” – learn strategies to address four typical areas of impairment for students with brain injuries
- “Library”
  - Web links, TBI dictionary, and reference section

**Inclusive Strategies for Teachers**

<http://www.specialed.us/>

This website is for the Calumet County Children with Disabilities Education Board of Wisconsin. It provides valuable information on the education of children with disabilities.

Features:

- Under “Issues and Memos”
  - Under “Inclusive Education”
    - Practical suggestions for providing accommodations for students compiled from various internet resources

**YouTube.com – “Coping with Brain Injury and School Success”**

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=h5MvB0SdYg](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h5MvB0SdYg)

This YouTube video contains an interview with Dr. Wayne Gordon (Mt. Sinai School of Medicine) and Kathy Olson (parent of a child with brain injury). It provides suggestions for how to support children with brain injury in schools.

### **Brain Injury Association of New Jersey**

[www.bianj.org](http://www.bianj.org)

The Brain Injury Association of New Jersey is a non-profit organization that brings together people with brain injury, their families and friends, and concerned allied health professionals to improve the quality of life people experience after brain injury.

#### Features:

- Under “Programs and Services/Training Sessions and Seminars/Sessions for Parents and Educators”
  - Online Course for School Professionals
- Under “Publications”
  - “Brain Injury: A Guide for Educators” (free download)
  - “Brain Injury: A Guide for School Nurses” (free download)

#### Additional Resources:

##### **Glossary**

[www.waiting.com/glossary.html](http://www.waiting.com/glossary.html)

##### **Georgia Project for Assistive Technology**

[www.gpat.org/](http://www.gpat.org/)

##### **Shepherd Center Assistive Technology**

[www.shepherd.org/patcare/spec/tech.asp](http://www.shepherd.org/patcare/spec/tech.asp)

##### **Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta Assistive Technology**

[www.choa.org/default.aspx?id=1842](http://www.choa.org/default.aspx?id=1842)

##### **Sports Concussion**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yIqZDbk3M40>

## For Other Professionals

### **Medscape**

[www.neurologychannel.com/tbi/index.shtml](http://www.neurologychannel.com/tbi/index.shtml)

The Neurology Channel is a website developed by Healthcommunities.com, Inc., which provides reliable, physician-developed [patient education to consumers](#), [medical website design services for doctors](#), and [online directories of doctors](#). The Neurology Channel is developed and monitored by physicians.

Features:

- Symptoms of brain injury, causes, diagnosis, treatment, and resources

### **TBI Community**

[www.tbicommunity.org/training/t1/database/htm](http://www.tbicommunity.org/training/t1/database/htm)

TBI Community is a website developed by the Rehabilitation Research and Training Center (RRTC) on Community Integration of Persons with Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI), a project led by the Texas Institute for Rehabilitation and Research and Baylor College of Medicine with funding from the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research (NIDRR).

Features:

- Research
  - A listing of the Centers research projects.
- Training
  - A listing of the Center's training projects
- Resources and Publications
  - A listing of articles available on a wide variety of topics

### **Neuropsychology Central**

<http://neuropsychologycentral.com>

NeuropsychologyCentral.Com is a site devoted to the subject of Human Neuropsychology. The site is owned and developed by Ernest J. Bordini, Ph.D. of Clinical Psychology Associates of North Central Florida, P.A.

Features:

- Under "Resources/Frequently Asked Questions"
  - Neuropsychological Evaluation: An Overview
  - Commonly used Neuropsychological Tests
  - Evaluation of Traumatic Brain Injury
- Under "Links"
  - "Assessment" – links to websites that address assessment of brain injury
  - "Pediatric" – links to websites that address brain injury in children

### **Brain Connection**

[www.brainconnection.com](http://www.brainconnection.com)

BrainConnection.com is dedicated to providing accessible, high-quality information about how the brain works and how people learn. Developed by Posit Science Corporation it is an

award-winning, interesting and highly readable site full of information on anatomy, physiology, and functioning. Subscription emails are free and provide brief highlights of current offerings

Features:

- Under “Library”
  - Articles about General Topics, Education Topics, and Clinical Topics
- Under “Brain Teasers”
  - Several quizzes to exercise your brain
- Under “Talk”
  - Blogs, columnists, and interviews

### **Mount Sinai School of Medicine’s TBI Central**

[www.mssm.edu/tbicentral](http://www.mssm.edu/tbicentral)

TBI Central is a Web site of the Brain Injury Research Center (BIRC) at Mount Sinai, which conducts research on brain injury. The site provides diverse resources for professionals, people with TBI, and their family members.

Features:

- Under “Resources/Publications”
  - “Moving On: A Personal Futures Planning Workbook for Individuals with TBI, a Facilitator’s Manual, and Videotape”
  - “TBI Research Review”
  - “Selected Journal Articles and Chapters”
- Under “Resources”
  - FAQs - addresses a variety of questions about mild, moderate, and severe brain injuries; the school system; impact on families; etc.

### **Centre for Neuro Skills**

[www.neuroskills.com/](http://www.neuroskills.com/)

The Centre for Neuro Skills provides medical treatment, rehabilitation, and disease management for individuals with brain injury, while pursuing and advancing the best clinical treatment, education, and research. The Centre has rehabilitation programs in California and Texas.

Features:

- Under “Brain Injury”
  - A long list of web pages on such topics as “Overview of TBI,” “Brain Map,” “Cognition and Communication,” “Children,” and “Concussion Guide”
- Under “Treatment”
  - Under “Special Reports/Children”
    - An extensive list of articles on important topics about children and brain injury
- Under “Resources”
  - “Pharmacology Guide”
  - “Rating Scales”
  - “Federal Grants”
  - “Article Search”

Additional Resources:

**Neuropsychology Resources**

[www.psychwatch.com/neuropsych\\_page.htm](http://www.psychwatch.com/neuropsych_page.htm)

**American Academy of Pediatrics**

<http://www.aap.org/healthtopics/stages.cfm>

**National Academy of Neuropsychology (NAN)**

[www.nanonline.org/NAN/ResearchPublications/InternetLinks.aspx](http://www.nanonline.org/NAN/ResearchPublications/InternetLinks.aspx)

**Medical Dictionary at MedicineNet.com**

<http://medterms.com/script/main/hp.asp>

**Brain Injury Association of America**

[www.aacbis.net/aacbismanual6\\_04/pdf](http://www.aacbis.net/aacbismanual6_04/pdf)

**Brain & Spinal Injury Trust Fund Commission**

[www.bsitf.state.ga.us](http://www.bsitf.state.ga.us)

**Center for Outcome Measurement in Brain Injury**

[www.tbims.org/combi](http://www.tbims.org/combi)

**You Tube: “You Look Great! Inside a Traumatic Brain Injury”**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x9Xso4qGdII>

**Parent to Parent of Georgia**

[www.parenttoparentofga.org](http://www.parenttoparentofga.org)

**The Center for Injury Research and Prevention at the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia**

<http://stokes.chop.edu/programs/injury/>

**Santa Clara Valley Medical Center Rehabilitation Research Center**

<http://www.tbi-sci.org/index.html>

## For Policy Makers

### **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**

<http://www.cdc.gov/ncipc/tbi/TBI.htm>

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is a federal agency that monitors health issues, addresses health problems, develops public policy, and promotes prevention for the United States. Under its National Center for Injury Prevention the CDC has a Traumatic Brain Injury Program, which developed this site with information for public health professionals, practitioners, lawmakers, researchers, and families.

#### Features:

- An overview of traumatic brain injury, causes, symptoms, outcomes, and prevention
- Under “Research and Programs”
  - A listing of the CDC’s current research projects on brain injury
- Under “TBI Publications”
  - “Report to Congress on Mild Brain Injury in the United States: Steps to Prevent a Serious Public Health Problem”
  - “Traumatic Brain Injury in the United States: Assessing Outcomes in Children”
  - “Traumatic Brain Injury in the United States: Emergency Department Visits, Hospitalizations, and Deaths”
  - “Traumatic Brain Injury in the United States: The Future of Registries and Data Systems”
- Under “Fact Sheets”
  - “Concussion in Sports”
  - “Facts About Traumatic Brain Injury”
  - “Traumatic Brain Injury: A Guide for Criminal Justice Professionals”
  - “Traumatic Brain Injury in Prisons and Jails: An Unrecognized Problem”

### **Safe Kids USA**

[www.usa.safekids.org](http://www.usa.safekids.org)

Safe Kids USA is a member of Safe Kids Worldwide, a global network of organizations whose mission is to prevent accidental childhood injury, a leading killer of children 14 and under. More than 450 coalitions in 16 countries bring together health and safety experts, educators, corporations, foundations, governments and volunteers to educate and protect families.

#### Features:

- Under “Research/Injury Facts Sheets with Data Sources”
  - Fact sheets on a wide variety of prevention topics (free downloads)
- Under “Research/Reports”
  - Reports on a variety of topics including drowning, pedestrian safety, helmet use, etc. (free downloads)
- Under “Public Policy”
  - “Safe Kids Comments on Federal Legislation”
  - “Congressional Testimony”
  - “Regulatory Comments”

## **Children's Safety Network**

[www.childrenssafetynetwork.org](http://www.childrenssafetynetwork.org)

The Children's Safety Network (CSN) is a national resource center for the prevention of childhood injuries and violence. It is designed to assist states in building their capacity to prevent injuries and violence against children.

### Features:

- Under "State Capacity Building/Policy, Regulation & Legislation"
  - CSN Publication: "Finding Funding for Injury and Violence Prevention"
  - Useful Publications: "NCSL Legisbrief: Preventable Injuries Burden State Budgets"

# Prevention of TBI in Children and Youth

## **Safe Kids USA**

[www.usa.safekids.org](http://www.usa.safekids.org)

Safe Kids USA is a member of Safe Kids Worldwide, a global network of organizations whose mission is to prevent accidental childhood injury, a leading killer of children 14 and under. More than 450 coalitions in 16 countries bring together health and safety experts, educators, corporations, foundations, governments and volunteers to educate and protect families.

### Features:

- Under “Research/Injury Facts Sheets with Data Sources”
  - Fact sheets on a wide variety of prevention topics (free downloads)
- Under “Safety Tips”
  - “Safety Information for Parents:” a listing of many prevention topics
  - “Campaigns and Initiatives:” a listing of programs that address car, fire, pedestrian, and toy safety
- Under “Activities for Kids”
  - Coloring sheets, puzzles and more (free downloads)

## **Think First**

[www.thinkfirst.org/home.asp](http://www.thinkfirst.org/home.asp)

The ThinkFirst National Injury Prevention Foundation offers a research-validated multi-level educational program that has reached over 8 million young people nationally and internationally. ThinkFirst programs educate young people about their personal vulnerability and the importance of making safe choices. The message is: You can have a fun-filled, exciting life, without hurting yourself if you "ThinkFirst." ThinkFirst has chapters throughout the United States and in other countries.

### Features:

- Separate resource pages for kids, youth, and teens
- Fact sheets and prevention tips
- Links to local chapters for speakers
- Order form for educational products

## **National Center on Shaken Baby Syndrome**

<http://www.dontshake.org/>

The National Center’s mission is to educate and train parents and professionals, and to conduct research that will prevent the shaking and abuse of infants in the United States.

### Features:

- Under “Purple Program”
  - Information about the Center’s prevention program
- Under “Online Training”
  - 3 training modules for “Period of Purple Crying Program,” “Basic SBS/AHT Training,” and “Intermediate SBS/AHT Training”

## **Children’s Safety Network**

[www.childrenssafetynetwork.org](http://www.childrenssafetynetwork.org)

The Children's Safety Network (CSN) is a national resource center for the prevention of childhood injuries and violence. It is designed to assist states in building their capacity to prevent injuries and violence against children.

Features:

- Under "Publications and Resources"
  - Links to publications a wide variety of prevention topics

Additional Resources:

**The Center for Injury Research and Prevention at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia**

<http://stokes.chop.edu/programs/injury/>

**Safe Kids Georgia**

[www.safekidsgeorgia.org/](http://www.safekidsgeorgia.org/)

**Georgia Traffic Injury Prevention Institute**

[www.ridesafegeorgia.org/](http://www.ridesafegeorgia.org/)

**Governor's Office of Highway Safety**

[www.gahighwaysafety.org/](http://www.gahighwaysafety.org/)