

TeachME Professional Development

Marijuana: Facts for Teens

Introduction

1. Marijuana can be very addictive, and among youth receiving substance abuse treatment, marijuana accounts for the second largest percentage of admissions after alcohol abuse.

- A. True
 - B. False
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2. Each of the following is an accurate statement about how marijuana use impacts school performance and intellectual functioning EXCEPT:

- A. Marijuana has negative effects on attention, motivation, memory, and learning that can persist after the drug's immediate effects wear off
 - B. Someone who smokes marijuana daily may be functioning at a reduced intellectual level most or all of the time
 - C. Recent research suggests that people who begin using marijuana heavily as teens may permanently lose an average of 5 points in IQ by mid-adulthood
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Section 2: What is Marijuana?

3. According to a 2012 national survey, more than _____ Americans over the age of 12 had tried marijuana at least once, and nearly _____ had used the drug in the month before the survey.

- A. 83 million; 25 million
 - B. 96 million; 23 million
 - C. 104 million; 21 million
 - D. 111 million; 19 million
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4. Marijuana works through delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) attaching to specific sites on nerve cells in the brain and in other parts of the body called N-Methyl-d-aspartate (NMDA) receptors.

- A. True
 - B. False
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5. Which of the following is NOT one of the effects of marijuana use?

- A. THC activates the reward system in the same way that nearly all drugs of abuse do, by stimulating brain cells to release the chemical dopamine
 - B. THC alters how information is processed in the hippocampus, a brain area related to memory and regular use can affect learning skills and academic achievement
 - C. It causes adverse mental reactions such as anxiety, fear, distrust, or panic in some users, and some may even experience psychosis
 - D. Marijuana use leads to addiction in about 25% of people who start using in their teens and about 40-60% of people who use it everyday
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6. Long-term studies of high school students' patterns of drug use show that most young people who use other drugs have tried marijuana, alcohol, or tobacco first, and researchers are now examining the possibility that exposure to marijuana in adolescence may cause changes in the brain that make a person more vulnerable to subsequent substance addiction.

- A. True
 - B. False
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7. Currently, naltrexone is the only FDA approved medication for treating marijuana addiction, and is specifically used to treat withdrawal symptoms and alleviate craving and other subjective effects of THC.

- A. True
 - B. False
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8. Indications of marijuana use include changes in a child's behavior, such as carelessness with grooming, mood changes, and deteriorating relationships with family members and friends, as well as changes in academic performance, loss of interest in sports or other favorite activities, a change in peer group, changes in eating or sleeping habits, and getting in trouble in school or with the law.

- A. True
 - B. False
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