

### PsychSim 5: NEURAL MESSAGES

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Section:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

This activity explains the way that neurons communicate with each other.

#### **Neuron Parts**

Match the part of the neuron identified with its description:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="radio"/> ___ Axon             | A. Contains the nucleus, which controls the function of the entire cell  |
| <input type="radio"/> ___ Axon terminals   | B. Carry signals to other nerve cells  |
| <input type="radio"/> ___ Cell body (soma) | C. Receive signals from other nerve cells  |
| <input type="radio"/> ___ Dendrites        | D. Contain small sacs called synaptic vesicles that play an important role in transmitting signals from one cell to the next |

#### **A Tip**

- Dendrites \_\_\_\_\_
- Axons \_\_\_\_\_

#### **A Closer Look**

- What does it mean to say that an axon's membrane is "selectively permeable?"
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- Given what you know about synaptic transmission, how do you think a message jumps across the synaptic gap and is passed to the next neuron?