TOPIC: Head Injuries

For this lesson you will need:

Power point presentation bites and stings and worksheets A18 &A19

The recommended learning age for this topic is 7 –14 years.  
At the end of this topic the learner may be able to:

* ensure the safety of themselves and others
* identify a minor or severe head injury
* give first aid to a casualty who has a head injury
* seek medical help if required

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Section 1: The human skull and brain

Resources and guidance for this session:   
**PowerPoint slides:** numbers4-7

**Activity:** printed copies of A18 sheet (optional activity based on numbers of learners)

* Slides 4-6 aim to help the learner understand basic information about the human skull and brain. The slides provide an overview of the functions of each and provide some anatomical reference.
* Using slide 7 and worksheet A18 ask the learner to think of several functions of the brain. You should use this to open discussions and ask open questions regarding importance of each function.
* The learner should be aware of the main functions of the brain and understand how the brain is the “control centre” for our bodies.

**Activity:** What does the brain do? printed copy of A18

* Use the template to create a mind map of the things that the brain “does!”

Link to this topic on our website:

[Click here](https://www.sja.org.uk/get-advice/key-stage-first-aid-lesson-plans/key-stage-2-first-aid-lesson-plans/ks2-head-injuries-lesson-plan-and-teaching-resources/)

**PowerPoint slides:** numbers8-10

* Provide your learner with an understanding that a head injury can sometimes cause some further complications. Explain that as the brain control many functions of the body any injury can have a significant effect. If a casualty’s breathing is affected then this must always take priority and basic life support given.
* Worksheet A19 shows a scene where a car and a cyclist have had an accident.
* Points for discussion are numbered 1-5. You should discuss things such as the casualty numbered 1 is seemingly unresponsive so would be a priority. Number 2 is sitting up and is wearing a cycle helmet so there was potentially some protection to prevent head injury. The driver of car also may have sustained a head injury and does not seem to be wearing a seat belt.
* Use slide 9 to look at and discuss possible signs and symptoms of minor or severe head injury.
* Use slide 10 to discuss what signs and symptoms you would seek emergency help for. Answer is ALL of them! They are all signs of a worsening head injury so it is very important to get emergency help for the casualty.

**PowerPoint slides:** numbers11-14

* Use slides 11 and 12 to practise your head injury first aid skills. Role play a scenario where a casualty has a minor and then severe head injury and demonstrate how you would treat them.
* **Quiz time:** See how many questions you can answer correctly on slide 13 head injury quiz
* **Check your learning:** Use the check my learning slide 14 to rate your confidence and ability to deal with a casualty who has a head injury
* **Quiz:** Ask the learner questions from the quiz below:

1. Which number(s) would you ring to get emergency help?

**Ans:** 999 or 112

1. Name one sign of a head injury
2. Name one way to prevent a head injury
3. Name the part of the body which protects the brain
4. How many bones form the skull?
5. Name one thing that the brain controls
6. How would you treat a head injury? (Minor and severe)
7. Why would you never leave a casualty who has had a head injury alone?

Section 3: Your turn

Section 2: What can go wrong?