Hand Model of the Brain

We can use our hand to explain what happens in our brain when we flip our lid.

> *Brain Stem* (Doing Brain)

Prefrontal Cortex (Thinking Brain)

Amygdala (Feeling Brain)

The three important parts are our Thinking Brain, Feeling Brain, and our Doing Brain.





The Thinking Brain helps us make decisions, think logically, and be flexible. The Feeling Brain is responsible for all of our emotions.

The Doing Brain s responsible for walking, talking, breathing etc.

Prefrontal Cortex

(Thinking Brain)

(Doing Brain)

Normally, when we're regulated, all three parts of the brain are talking. We are able to stay calm, and information comes in and is processed logically. The Thinking Brain is hugging the Feeling Brain, making it feel safe.

Amygdala (Feeling Brain)

Our brain works best when all three parts are working together by sending messages to each other. When we experience a BIG emotion, we...





Flipping our Lid



When we Flip Our Lid, the Feeling Brain feels like we're in danger and goes into protection mode.

It takes over, which means our brain is being run by our emotions and we are dysregulated. We struggle to think clearly, have control of our emotions, and make good decisions.



What are some things that you might say or do when you flip your lid? What might grown ups, or siblings, or friends do?



It can be tricky to keep our cool when we've Flipped Our Lid and our Thinking Brain, Feeling Brain, and Doing Brain aren't talking to each other. We know that being able to regulate ourselves helps all parts of the brain to talk to each other again so we can feel calm.

Regulation Strategies I can use are...

- Taking strong, deep breaths
- Taking some space for myself lacksquare
- Having a drink of water \bullet
- A mindful activity, like writing, drawing, colouring, or playing with LEGO

List your favourite strategies!