



St. Louis American NEWSPAPER IN EDUCATION

The St. Louis American's award winning NIE program provides newspapers and resources to more than 8,000 teachers and students each week throughout the school year, at no charge.

Questions or comments? Contact Cathy Sewell
csewell@stlamerican.com or 314-289-5422



CLASSROOM SPOTLIGHT

At Dunbar Elementary School in the East St. Louis School District Mr. Pruet's 3rd grade class uses microscopes to show students Kai Andrew Williams, Lamarion Burton, Grace Sykes and Tynla Moore how to do a science lesson found using the newspaper's NIE page. Photo by Wiley Price / St. Louis American



Teachers, if you are using the St. Louis American's NIE program and would like to nominate your class for a Classroom Spotlight, please email: nie@stlamerican.com.

SCIENCE STARS

African-American Neurosurgeon Alexa Canady



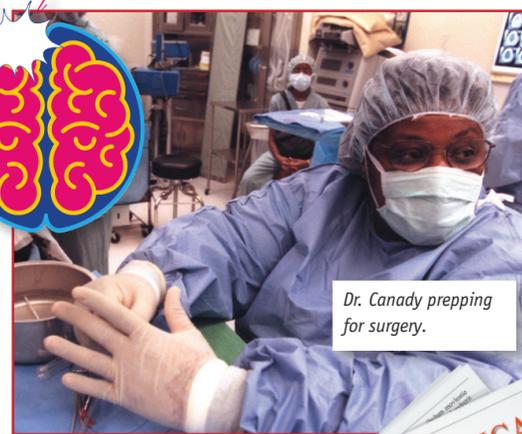
Alexa Canady was born on November 7, 1950, in Michigan. Her father was a dentist and her mother was a teacher. They encouraged her to work hard and to take risks. She graduated from high school with honors and went to the University of Michigan to earn her bachelor's degree in zoology. However, while attending a summer program

for minority students, Canady became interested in studying medicine. So, after she earned her zoology degree, she enrolled in the University of Michigan's medical school. She specialized in neurosurgery, which is brain surgery. She was an intern at Yale-New Haven Hospital. In 1975, she graduated cum laude from medical school.

One year later, she transferred to the University of Minnesota, where she was the first female African American in the U.S. to become a neurosurgery resident. In 1981, she became the first female African American to become a neurosurgeon. She completed surgeries to treat both brain injuries and brain diseases. Canady completed training for pediatric neurosurgery at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. Next, she worked in pediatric neurosurgery at the Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit. She ended her career at the Children's Hospital of Michigan.

In 1984, she became the first female African American certified by the American Board of Neurological Surgery. Three years later, she became the director of neurosurgery at Children's Hospital. Canady continued to conduct research and she was a professor of neurosurgery at Wayne State University. Canady retired in 2001 and moved to Florida. When she learned there was not a local pediatric neurosurgeon, she began working part time at the Pensacola Sacred Heart Hospital. Canady was inducted into the Michigan Women's Hall of Fame in 1989 and she also received the American Medical Women's Association President's Award in 1993.

Learning Standards: I can read a biography about a person who has contributed to the fields of science, technology, engineering, and math.

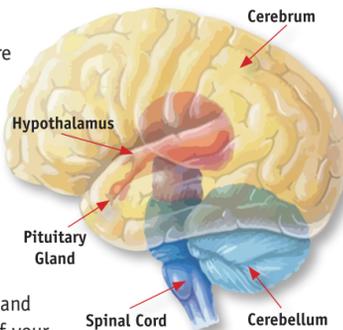


Dr. Canady prepping for surgery.

SCIENCE CORNER

Parts of the Brain

Your brain is pretty small and it weighs approximately 3 pounds. Scientists compare the texture of the brain to the texture of tofu. Your brain has 5 main parts: cerebrum, cerebellum, brain stem, pituitary gland, and the hypothalamus. The cerebrum makes up 85% of the brain. It controls thinking, and the moving muscles. It is divided into two halves. The left of the brain controls the movements on the right side of your body and vice versa. The cerebellum makes up 1/8 of your brain. It controls balance, movement, and coordination. The brain stem is beneath the cerebrum and in front of the cerebellum. It connects to the spinal cord and controls all major life functions, such as breathing air, circulating blood,



and digesting food. The pituitary gland is about the size of a pea. It controls growth, regulates metabolism, and releases hormones. The hypothalamus controls temperature. It tells your body to shiver when you are cold to generate heat; it tells your body to sweat when you are hot to release heat.

For information on creating models of the brain, visit: <http://faculty.washington.edu/chudler/chmodel.html>.

Learning Standards: I can read nonfiction text for main idea and supporting details. I can make text-to-text and text-to-self connections.

SCIENCE INVESTIGATION

ARE YOU LEFT OR RIGHT SIDED?

Are you left handed or right handed? Did you know that your brain has a right or left side dominance, too? In this experiment, you will observe the brain dominance in your volunteers.

Materials Needed:

- 10 Volunteers
- Paper
- Pencil
- Scissors
- Ball
- Stairs
- Coin
- Tube
- Shell

Process:

- 1 In your science notebook, create a chart similar to the one we have here.
- 2 Ask each volunteer to complete the tasks on the chart and record the results on the paper—did they use their right hand or left hand, their right foot or left foot, their right eye or left eye, their right ear or left ear?
- 3 Analyze the results — Did your right hand participants use their right side for all the tasks? Did your left hand participants use their left side for all the tasks?

		Volunteer 1	Volunteer 2	Volunteer 3
Hand Dominance	Write their name			
	Are they right or left handed?			
	Use scissors			
Foot Dominance	Throw a ball			
	Kick a ball			
	Step up a stair			
Eye Dominance	Step onto a coin			
	Look in a tube			
	Look in a hole			
Ear Dominance	Look at a finger			
	Cup their ear			
	Listen to a shell			
	Listen through a wall			

Learning Standards: I can follow a sequential process to complete an experiment. I can draw conclusions and analyze results.

MATH CONNECTION

BRAIN POWER!

Keep your skills sharp and test your brain power with these math problems.

1 Ariel's father gave her \$125. Ariel bought 5 books, each of which cost \$12.50 each. How much money does Ariel have left? _____

2 For breakfast, Eli bought a bagel for \$2.60 and a glass of orange juice for \$1.25. At lunch, Eli spent \$6.15 on a sandwich with chips and \$1.50 on a carton of milk. How much more money did _____

Eli spend on lunch than on breakfast? _____ How much money did he spend in all? _____



3 A group of 9 children and 5 adults are going to a movie. Child tickets cost \$3 each, and adult tickets cost \$6 each. How much will the movie tickets cost in all? _____

If each person spends \$5 at the concession stand, how much money did they spend on food and drinks? _____

4 Layla has 19 red beads, and she has 2 fewer yellow beads than red beads. Lyla also has 7 more green beads than red beads. How many beads does Layla have in all? _____

Learning Standards: I can add, subtract, multiply, and divide to solve a problem.

DID YOU KNOW?

▶ When you are awake, your brain produces enough electricity to power a small light bulb.

▶ Your brain uses one-fifth of a calorie per minute when you are at rest.

▶ The scientific term for brain freeze is "Sphenopalatine ganglioneuralgia."



▶ The human brain has enough memory to hold three million hours of television.

▶ Human brains are 10% smaller than they were 20,000 years ago.

MAP CORNER

Enjoy these activities that help you get to know your St. Louis American newspaper.

Activities — Perspective: Imagine that you are the main character in a news story. After reading the published story, give your version.

Creating an Advertisement: Look through the classified ads to identify the types of things that are sold. Read a few ads and list important facts included in an ad (item description, condition, price, etc.). Draw a picture of a toy that you have. Next, pretend you are going to sell it and write a classified ad below the picture.

Learning Standards: I can use the newspaper to locate information. I can write for a specific purpose and audience. I can make text-to-self connections.



This special Newspaper In Education initiative is made possible, and delivered to classrooms, through The St. Louis American Foundation and its NIE Corporate Partners:

