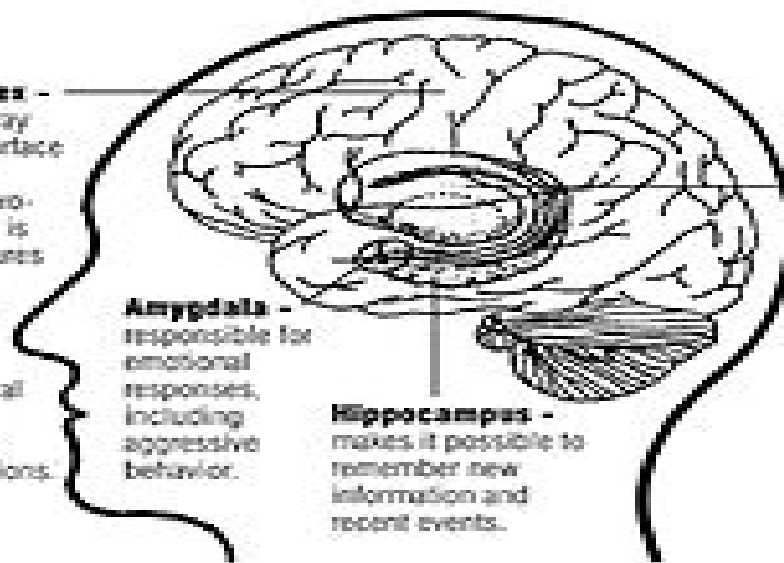


**Cerebral cortex** - a thin layer of gray matter on the surface of the cerebral hemispheres. Two-thirds of its area is deep in the fissures or folds. Responsible for the higher mental functions, general movement, perception, and behavioral reactions.



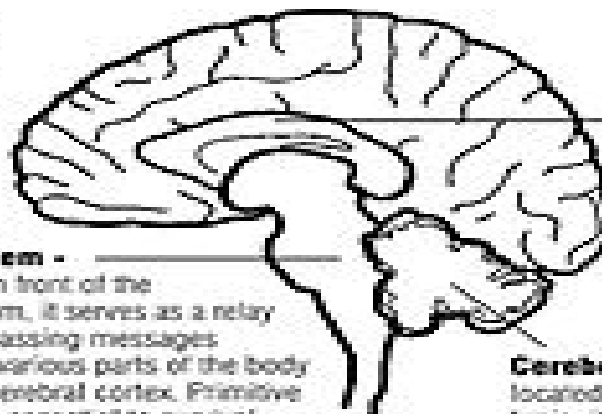
**Amygdala** - responsible for emotional responses, including aggressive behavior.

**Hippocampus** - makes it possible to remember new information and recent events.

**Basal ganglia** - gray masses deep in the cerebral hemisphere that serves as a connection between the cerebrum and cerebellum. Helps to regulate automatic movement.

## Major Brain Structures Implicated in Autism

**Brain stem** - located in front of the cerebellum, it serves as a relay station, passing messages between various parts of the body and the cerebral cortex. Primitive functions essential to survival (breathing and heart rate control) are located here.



**Corpus callosum** - consists primarily of closely packed bundles of fibers that connect the right and left hemisphere and allows for communication between the hemispheres.

**Cerebellum** - located at the back of the brain, it fine tunes our motor activity, regulates balance, body movements, coordination, and the muscles used in speaking.