



Working Together for Alcohol and Drug-Free San Marcos Youth



TOOL
1



Marijuana

impairs learning

**Marijuana use can
really *screw* things up**



- Teen marijuana use disrupts the development of the brain, by reducing the brain's white matter. White matter reduction negatively effects learning, memory, and cognition.
- *"It is important to alert the public that using marijuana in the teen years brings health, social, and academic risk."* Dr. Nora Volkow, Director of the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA).
- Teen marijuana use can create a permanent 8-point loss in IQ (enough to move an average person to the bottom third of the IQ scale).
- Teen marijuana use can lead to long-term mental health disorders such as anxiety, depression, and schizophrenia (NIDA).
- Even after the immediate effects of marijuana wear off, the negative effects on attention, motivation, memory, and learning can persist (NIDA).
- The brain isn't fully developed until the mid-twenties, a marijuana free adolescent brain is crucial for our youth's current and future success.

This is one in a series of tools in the parental marijuana tool kit. To view all the tools, go to www.SanMarcosPreventionCoalition.org/resources/toolkit