

# SEIZURES

 Brief episodes of disorderly electrical activity in the brain which affects its normal functions and produces changes in a person's movements, behavior, or consciousness.





## DID YOU KNOW?

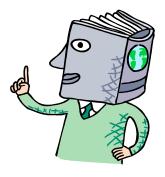
- 2,000,000 people in the U.S. have some form of Epilepsy.
- □ 300,000 of those are under age 18.
- ¤ 100,000 new cases are reported each year.
- In 70% of cases, the cause is unknown.

### TYPES OF SEIZURES

- Generalized tonicclonic (grand mal)
- Myoclonic
- Atonic
- Absence



- Infantile spasms
- Simple partial
  - Complex partial



### ABSENCE SEIZURES

 Very brief, last only a few seconds, and look like a blank stare, or daydreaming.
The person is completely unaware of his surroundings. They begin and end suddenly.



# TONIC-CLONIC SEIZURES

 Person blanks out, falls, stiffens, then jerks uncontrollably for a minute or two.



# FIRST AID FOR SEIZURES

- Call 911 if the seizure lasts more than 5 minutes or if the student stops breathing
- Cushion the head
- Loosen tight neckwear
- Turn student on their side if possible; do not force.



#### HOW TO HELP

- Move large objects away from student
- Place <u>nothing</u> in the mouth
- · Look for ID
- · Don't hold student down
- As seizure ends, offer help and assurance
- Notify parents





### In The Classroom

- Be familiar with the needs of your students with chronic illnesses.
- Review their health care plans to be prepared to assist in an emergency.
- Document seizure activity (duration, characteristics) in the student's log attached to the health care plan.
- Be sure substitutes are aware of student's health concerns
  Call your school nurse with specific

questions