Biology and Behavior Vocabulary

1. \_\_\_ Axon
2. \_\_\_ Neuron
3. \_\_\_ Synapse
4. \_\_\_ Dendrites
5. \_\_\_ Glial Cells
6. \_\_\_ Myelin Sheath
7. \_\_\_ Neurotransmitter

1. a specialized cell that conducts impulses through the nervous system and contains three major parts – a cell body, dendrites, and an axon.
2. In a neuron, the branchlike extensions of the cell body that receive signals from other neurons.
3. The slender, tail-like extension of the neuron that transmits signals to the dendrites or cell body of other neurons and to muscles, glands, and other parts of the body.
4. The junction where the axon terminal of a sending neuron communicates with a receiving neuron across the synaptic cleft.
5. The white, fatty coating wrapped around some axons that acts as insulation and enables impulses to travel much faster.
6. Specialized cells in the brain and spinal cord that hold neurons together, remove waste products such as dead neurons, and perform other manufacturing, nourishing, and cleanup tasks.
7. A chemical substance that is released into the synaptic cleft from the axon terminal of a sending neuron, crosses a synapse, and binds to appropriate receptor sites on the dendrites or cell body of a receiving neuron, influencing the cell either to fire or not to fire.