

# Did You Know?

**Alcohol affects youth differently than adults!**

- The brain goes through rapid change between the ages of 10 and 21. Drinking alcohol before age 21 can cause lifelong damage to brain function, especially memory, motor skills (ability to move), and coordination.
- Your brain will not finish developing until age 25!
- Underage drinking can lead to alcoholism (when you want to stop drinking, but can't). If you drink alcohol before age 15, you are 4 times more likely to develop alcoholism at some point in your life.
- Every day, an average of 29 people are killed in drunken-driving crashes.
- Riding with a driver who has been drinking alcohol is dangerous! Even if you haven't been drinking, you could still end up injured or killed in a drunken driving crash.

## *What can alcohol do to you?*

- Trouble at home / school
- Falling grades
- Losing friends
- Broken relationships
- Problems achieving goals
- Injuries, falls, and drowning
- Depression
- Suicidal thoughts
- Aggression and violence
- Alcohol poisoning
- Death

**Remember:  
Alcohol is a drug.  
Don't drink drugs!**