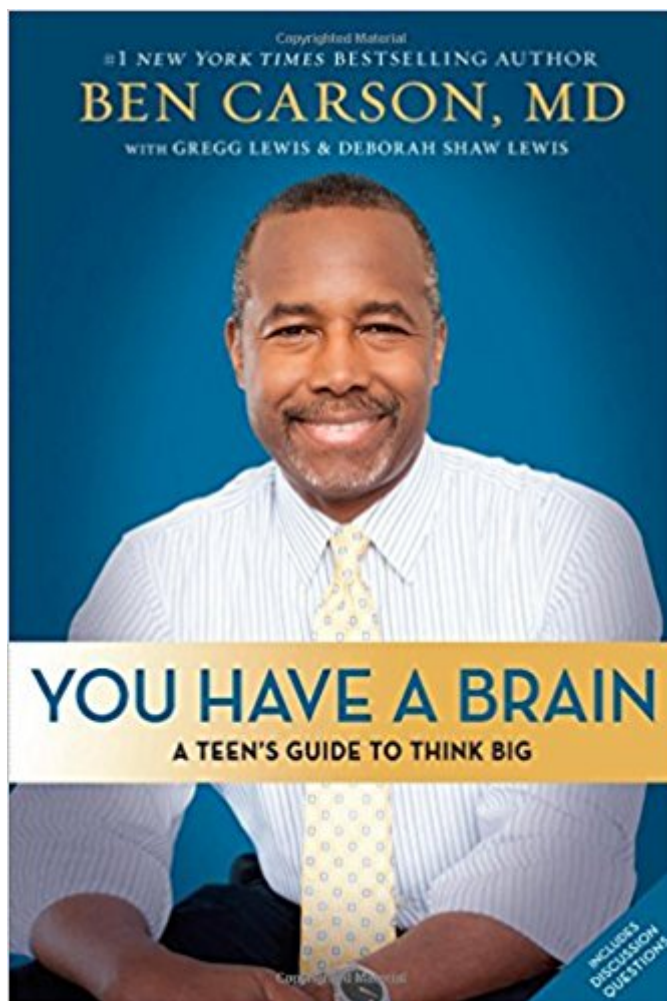


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# You Have A Brain: A Teen's Guide To T.H.I.N.K. B.I.G.



## Synopsis

Throughout his life, renowned neurosurgeon Dr. Benjamin Carson has needed to overcome many obstacles: His father leaving the family; being considered stupid by his classmates in grade school; growing up in inner-city Detroit; and having a violent temper. But Dr. Carson didn't let his circumstances control him, and instead discovered eight principles that helped shape his future. In *You Have a Brain: A Teen's Guide to Think Big*, Dr. Carson unpacks the eight important parts of Thinking Big—Talent, Honesty, Insight, being Nice, Knowledge, Books, In-Depth learning, and God—and presents the stories of people who demonstrated those things in his life. By applying the idea of T.H.I.N.K. B.I.G. to your life, and by looking at those around you as well, you too can overcome obstacles and work toward achieving your dreams. Includes discussion questions at the back of the book..

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

The title of *You Have a Brain: A Teen's Guide to T.H.I.N.K. B.I.G* centers on the advice Ben Carson's mother gave him and his brother: you have a brain—use it. The well-known neurosurgeon Dr. Benjamin Carson has overcome the obstacles of his father's leaving the family, being considered stupid by his classmates in grade school, and having a violent temper. He articulates eight principles that helped shape his future and which make up thinking big: Talent, Honesty, Insight, being Nice, Knowledge, Books, In-Depth Learning, and God. Writing for a teen audience, Carson amply demonstrates that the effective use of one's brain does trump peer pressure. In his experience, "peers" were actually People Encouraging Errors, Rudeness and

stupidity. Carson also makes clear that his own battle with an out-of-control temper required help from God, though using his brain to recognize the need was essential. Gregg Lewis is the author or coauthor of more than 50 books, and Deborah Shaw Lewis has authored or coauthored more than a dozen books; the two are the parents of five children. As a team they have worked with Dr. Carson and are able to articulate insights in a fashion that encourages personal assessment. Leroy Hommerding, CLJ (Christian Library Journal)

Dr. Benjamin S. Carson, Sr., M.D., became the chief of pediatric neurosurgery at Johns Hopkins Hospital in 1984 at the age of 33, making him the youngest major division director in the hospital's history. He has written and published nine books, four of which were co-authored with Candy, his wife of 40 years. Dr. Carson was the recipient of the 2006 Spingarn Medal. In June 2008, he was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom. U.S. News Media Group and Harvard's Center for Public Leadership recognized Dr. Carson as one of "America's Best Leaders" in 2008. In 2014, the Gallup Organization, in their annual survey, named Dr. Carson as one of the 10 Most Admired Men in the World. Dr. Carson and his wife are co-founders of the Carson Scholars Fund, which recognizes young people of all backgrounds for exceptional academic and humanitarian accomplishments. In addition, Dr. Carson is now the Honorary National Chairman of the My Faith Votes campaign and continues to work tirelessly for the cause of the American people. Gregg Lewis is an award-winning author and coauthor of more than fifty books, including *Gifted Hands*, *The Ben Carson Story*, *Take the Risk* and *The Big Picture*. Deborah Shaw Lewis has authored or coauthored more than a dozen books, including *Gifted Hands*, *The Ben Carson Story*, has taught school, does professional storytelling, speaks on motherhood and family issues, and holds a master's degree in early childhood development. She and Gregg are the parents of five children.

*You Have a Brain* by Dr. Ben Carson. This is the second book I have read by Dr. Carson and I have found both inspirational and informative. I was glad to see a chapter devoted to his mother, Sonya Carson. This mother is one who cared for her children and was the biggest influence in their lives as far as I was concerned. Dr. Carson was a world-known neurosurgeon who worked hard to get to his position. He proves it can be done and it is up to you to do what is necessary to make your goal in life. The chapters are: Chapter 1: The Amazing Brain Chapter 2: Think Beyond the Can Chapter 3: Gone Chapter 4: How We Got Smart Chapter 5: Bookworm Chapter 6: Taming my Temper Chapter 7: Expanding My Options Chapter 8: The Smartest Choice Chapter 9: Off to College Chapter 10: The Challenge-Medical School Chapter 11 : Becoming a Neurosurgeon Chapter 12: More Twins Chapter

13: Mother's InfluenceChapter 14: TalentChapter 15: HonestyChapter 16: InsightChapter 17: NiceChapter 18: KnowledgeChapter 19: BooksChapter 20: In-depth LearningChapter 21 : GodChapter 22: Think BigThe chapters are short and I personally think this should be a classroom study book. It can be done in 20 minutes a day with reading and a discussion. It is also a good family book to read and discuss.Sonya Carson kept telling her sons, Ben and Curtis, they have a brain that God gave them so use it. One became an engineer and the other a doctor.Dr. Carson tells about his childhood, his jobs, his surgeries, his temper and his family. He is a very religious man and talks about God. He encourages young people to T.H.I.N.K.B.I.G. These are chapters 14-21.One of my granddaughters asked me what was my pet peeve and I said "telling a lie" because one forgets what they said in a lie but remembers the truth; something I always told my sons and daughter as I raised them. The next day, I see that Dr. Carson said the same thing in his book.I will give this a 5 star rating. I also read Gifted Hands after I saw the movie.I received a complimentary copy to read and review from booklookbloggers to read and review. The opinions are my own.Leona Olson<http://www.mnleona.blogspot.com>

I read Ben Carson's book, Gifted Hands, many years ago and was so inspired I gave it to a woman who works with inner city teens. So I was very interested in this book written specifically for teenagers.At first I thought it a rather odd title but when one begins reading, you find out what the title means, his mother was always telling her two boys to "use their brains"... not only with education but in common sense living. Not to mention it is a play on Dr. Carson being one of the worlds most famous neurosurgeons.I liked it even better than Gifted Hands, which is an autobiography. While this book also provides the story of how he went from failing school to becoming the Director of Pediatric Neurosurgery at Johns Hopkins, it also gives a lot of excellent specific advice on becoming the best person they can become... whatever God has planned for them.I have found it difficult to find a book written by a very devoted Christian that helps young people succeed in the secular world. Perhaps I'm not reading them. But I still believe this is one of those rare books that will inspire young people in their studies, interests, reading, career goals... and their relationship to Christ!! must add a caveat here, this books is an excellent read for college students and adults. I'd give it as a gift for any person needing inspiration in their current education (especially young people struggling in school) as well as we adults who need reminding that God has gifted us uniquely.Some of the chapter headings are: The Amazing Brain Think Beyond the Can How We Got Smart Bookworm Taming My Temper Expanding My Options The Challenge -- Medical School Becoming a Neurosurgeon Talent Honesty Insight Nice Knowledge Books In-Depth

Learning God Think Big! highly recommend this book. It was such an enjoyable read for this type of book, I read it in just a couple sittings! This book was provided by the publisher for purpose of review but the opinions are my own.

I bought this book for my son who has been struggling with his self confidence in school. He is not yet a teenager, he's actually ten but I have noticed a big change in him since reading this book. He even volunteered for his school's quiz bowl and came in 3rd place. I'm so proud of him. I recommend this book to all parents with preteens and teens. There are even discussion questions in the back of the book so that you can have a meaningful discussion with your child.

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