

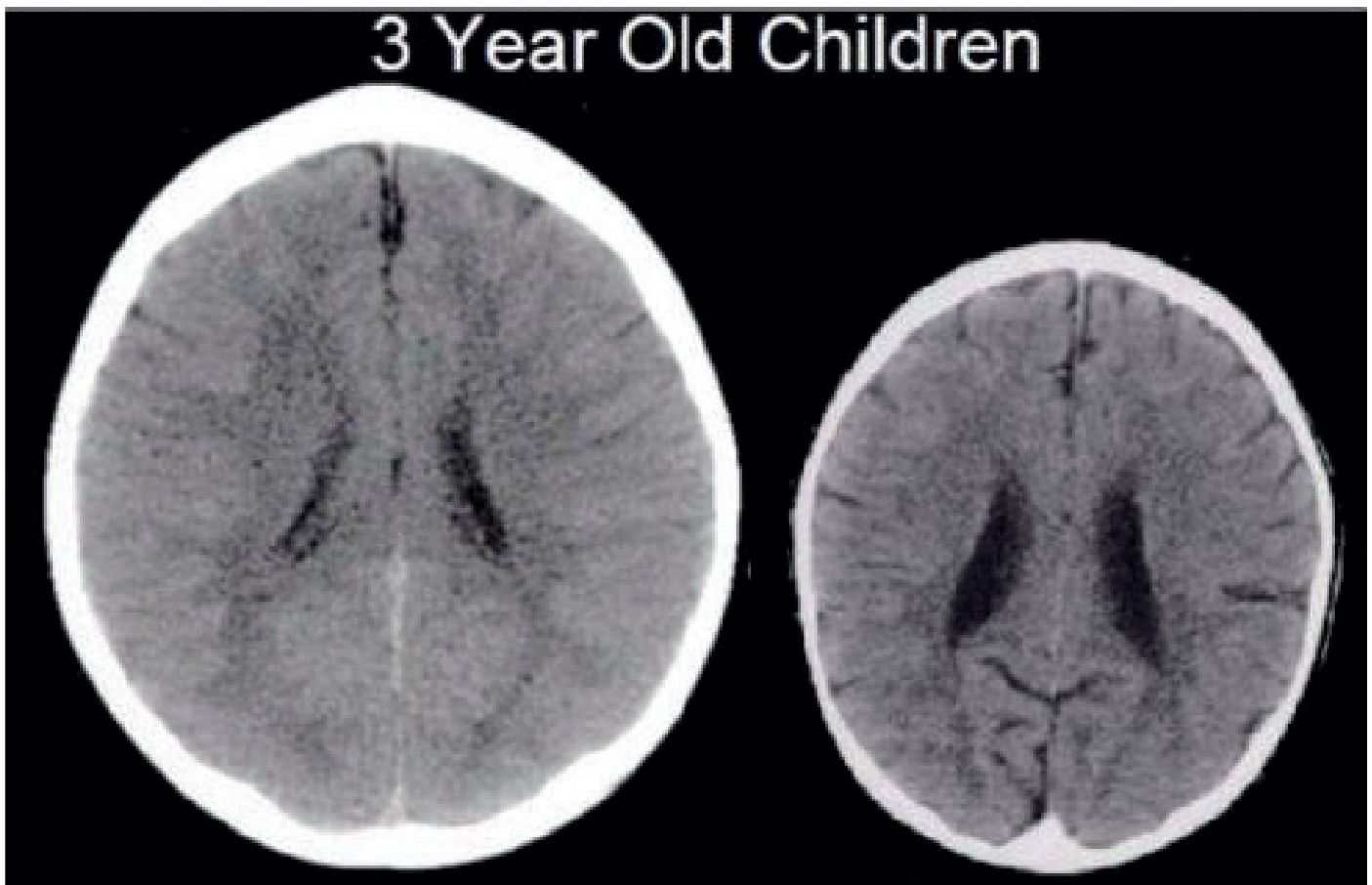
Exercise

HOW SERIOUS IS NEGLECT?

The answer to this is simple – **very serious**.

Take time to look at these brain scans from two 3-year-olds with your worker.

Can you identify which one is the brain of a child who has experienced neglect?



The scan on the left is an image from a healthy three-year-old with an average head size

The image on the right is from a three-year-old child suffering from severe sensory-deprivation neglect.

Impact of neglect on brain development

If a child has little interaction with their caregiver, it can change how emotional and verbal pathways develop and impact their ability to learn. If a baby is malnourished, neural cells can become weak or damaged, and this can cause lowered brain function. This may have consequences for brain functioning in later life.