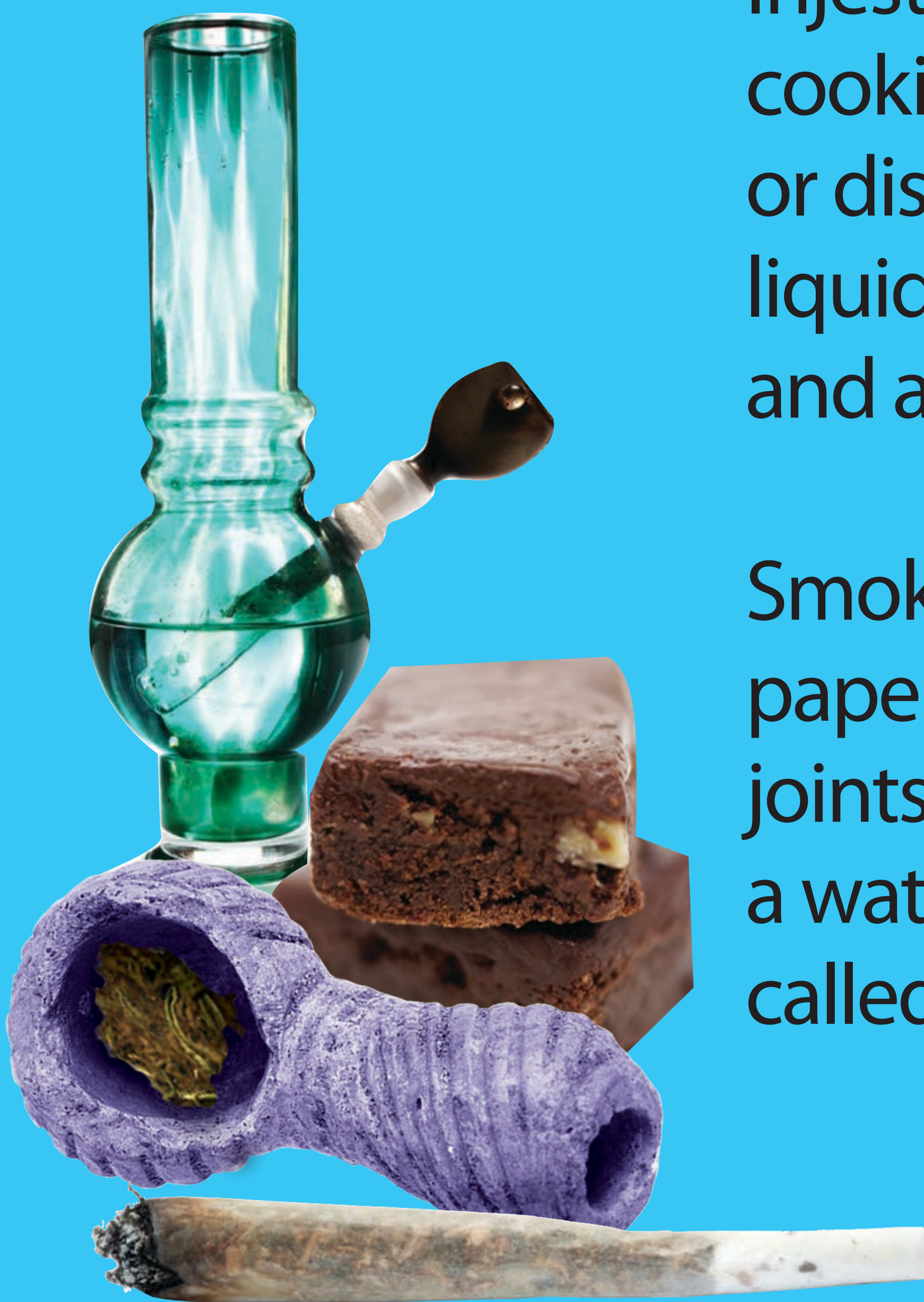


# IN THE KNOW: Marijuana

## What is Marijuana?

A green or gray mixture of dried shredded leaves, stems, and seeds of the hemp plant *Cannabis Sativa*. It has a strong, sweet odor when burned and contains over 400 chemicals, some of which cause cancer.

### HOW IS MARIJUANA USED?



Injected by cooking in foods or dissolved in liquids like teas and alcohol

Smoked in rolled paper called joints or through a water pipe called a bong

### MARIJUANA AND THE BRAIN

THC, DELTA-9-TETRAHYDROCANNABINOL, IS THE ACTIVE INGREDIENT IN MARIJUANA. IT CHANGES THE WAY THE BRAIN FUNCTIONS, INCLUDING:

- Learning
- Memory
- Coordination
- Motor functions



### EFFECTS OF USE

- MEMORY LOSS
- DIFFICULTY THINKING
- POOR COORDINATION
- INCREASED HEART RATE
- PARANOIA AND HALLUCINATIONS
- BRONCHITIS/PNEUMONIA
- LUNG CANCER
- HEART DISEASE
- LOWERED IMMUNE SYSTEM
- DELAYED DEVELOPMENT
- EUPHORIA
- STRESS

### STREET NAMES

- WEED
- POT
- REEFER
- GRASS
- DOPE
- GANJA
- MARY JANE
- HERB
- CHRONIC
- BLUNT
- BOOM
- CRIPPLE
- ROACH

### GATEWAY DRUG

Marijuana is a gateway drug, meaning that if you use it, you are more likely to try harder substances like cocaine or heroin.



### ADDICTIVE OR NOT?

#### IT'S JUST NOT WORTH THE RISK.

As marijuana growers make their product more potent, the potential for physical addiction increases.

Users can develop a **psychological addiction**, which means they have a compulsive behavior to use.

### BURNING OUT

Marijuana use can lead to amotivational syndrome, where users lack an interest in:

- Academics
- Career
- Athletics
- Personal Achievement
- Socializing
- Relationships with others

### GETTING HELP

There are treatment options available for marijuana users. Talk to a counselor or doctor to get help with your addiction.



# Marijuana - Refuse to Use!