

- \_\_\_\_\_ connect afferent neurons to ascending tracts to the cerebral cortex where conscious awareness of proprioception, kinesthesia and force is interpreted; they can also connect afferent neurons to efferent neurons, forming *reflex arcs*

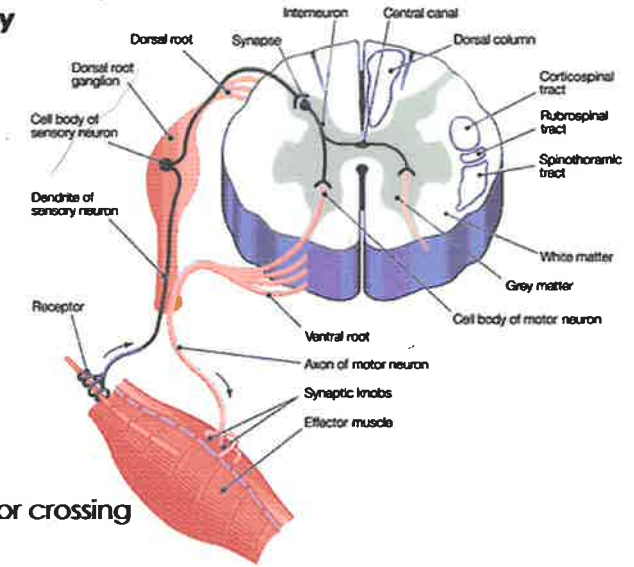
**Spinal Cord Segment, Spinal Nerve Root and Tract Anatomy**

**Ascending tracts**

- Dorsal white column
  - Fasciculus gracilis
  - Fasciculus cuneatus
- Dorsal spinocerebellar tract
- Ventral spinocerebellar tract
- Lateral spinothalamic tract
- Ventral spinothalamic tract

**Descending tracts**

- Ventral white commissure
- Lateral reticulospinal tract
- Lateral corticospinal tract
- Rubrospinal tract
- Medial reticulospinal tract
- Ventral corticospinal tract
- Vestibulospinal tract
- Tectospinal tract



- \_\_\_\_\_ - the action of intersecting or crossing (as of nerve fibers) the mid-line

Ascending Tracts – Sensory (see Somatic Sensory Pathways Coloring Sheet)

Descending Tracts – Motor

- \_\_\_\_\_ Motor Neurons – Originate in the cerebral cortex and travel to the brainstem or spinal cord
- \_\_\_\_\_ Motor Neurons – Originate in the spinal cord and go to innervate muscles and glands

