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Useful Terms and General References

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1. Anatomical Terms

rostral vs. caudal	rostral = “toward the snout”; caudal = “toward the tail”
lateral vs. medial	lateral = “toward the sides/edges”; medial = “toward the middle”
pyramids	pyramidal cells, so named because the cell body has a pyramidal shape
apical vs. basal dendrites	dendrites originating at the tip vs. the base of the pyramid
afferent vs. efferent fibers	input vs. output, or sensory vs. motor fibers
collaterals	fibers running along side each other
recurrent	feeding back on itself
layers I-VI	layers of the cortex, each with a distinct connection pattern

For additional definitions, see the glossary in *The Computational Brain.*

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