

Science Tool Time

Middle School Science & High School Biology

Complete the teacher skills checklist and select three areas
you would like to improve upon.



Benjy Downing – Kestrel Heights High School
Doug Miller – LearnEd Notebooks

Objectives:

- Evaluate your teacher skills using the checklist.
- Discuss notebooking strategies in science.
- Analyze how notebooking strategies can be used for the incorporation of other instructional tools.
- Review and discuss the teacher tool kit and habits of effective teachers.
- Develop a 30 minute lesson plan using one AfL strategy and a sample notebook.
- Q&A

Notebooking in Science:

- Organization
- Sense of ownership
- Student-centered learning
- Differentiation
- Multiple learning styles
- Current and relevant information
- Time management (for both students AND teachers)
- Teaching the way you want to teach!



Parent

Advisor

Coach

Tutor

Teacher

Wait...did the standards
change again?

How will my kids do on
their EOCT??

My principal found out I'm
a good chemistry teacher
too...now I have 3 preps!!!

I love science, I love my
job, I love my students!

I have 19.5 minutes to eat
lunch and I have copies
to run for 3rd period!

Assessment for Learning (AfL)



Questioning



Instructional
Strategies



Discussion &
Expression



Student
Evaluation



Assessment &
Feedback

What is AfL?

The process of seeking and interpreting to decide where students are in their learning, where they need to go and how best to get there.

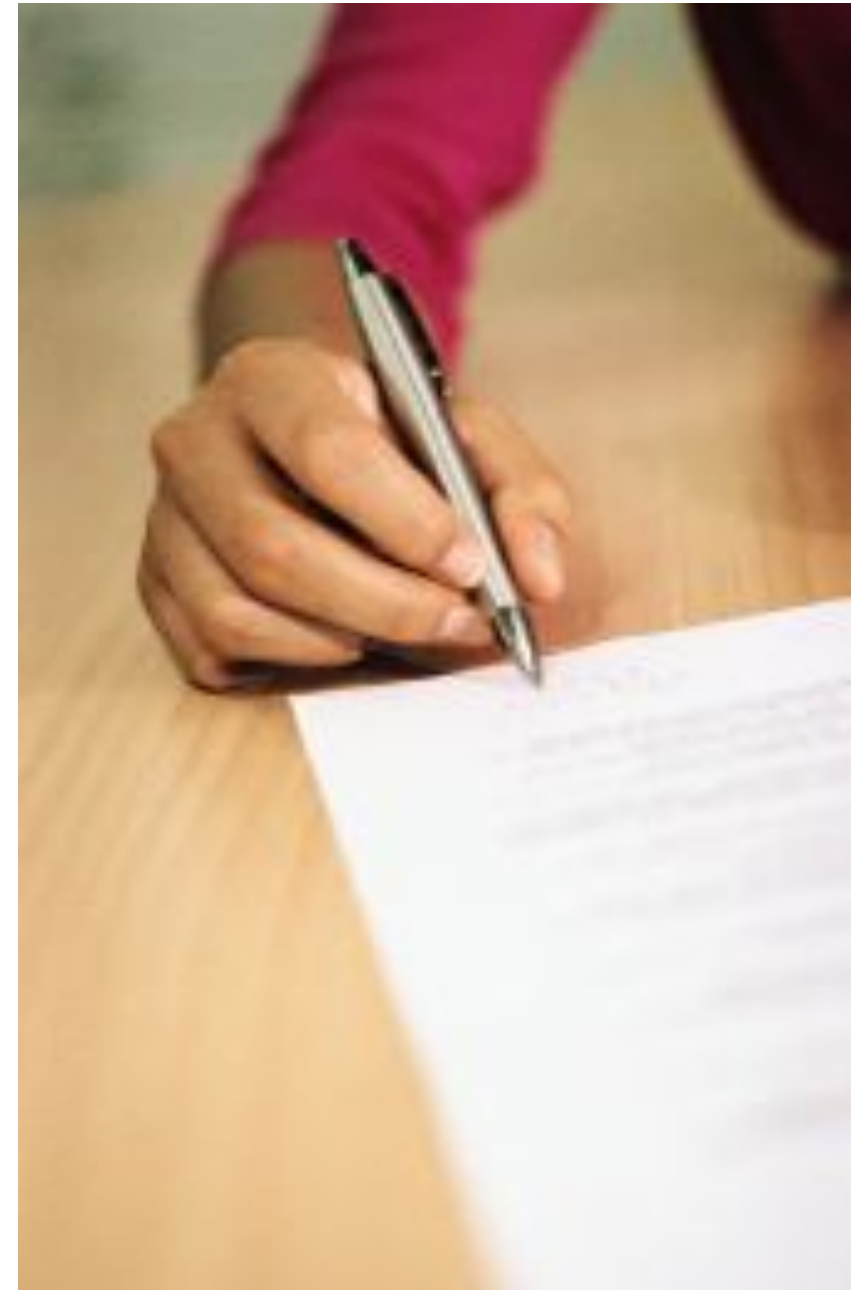
Questioning

“Sawing” into the content and collecting student knowledge in an effective way.



Questioning

- Students write questions (demonstrate knowledge, reveal misconceptions)
- Students ask questions (give them opportunities to ask)
- Open vs. closed questions (facilitate the use of abstract thinking)
- Using “might” (allows a greater opportunity to explore answers)



Questioning

- Invert the question (example: "what does it mean for..." instead of simply asking for recall)
- X and Y (why is "x" a good example of "y")
- Use proper question stems
 - How might...
 - Why does...
 - Could you explain...



Instructional Strategies

The valuable components that hold a structure together.



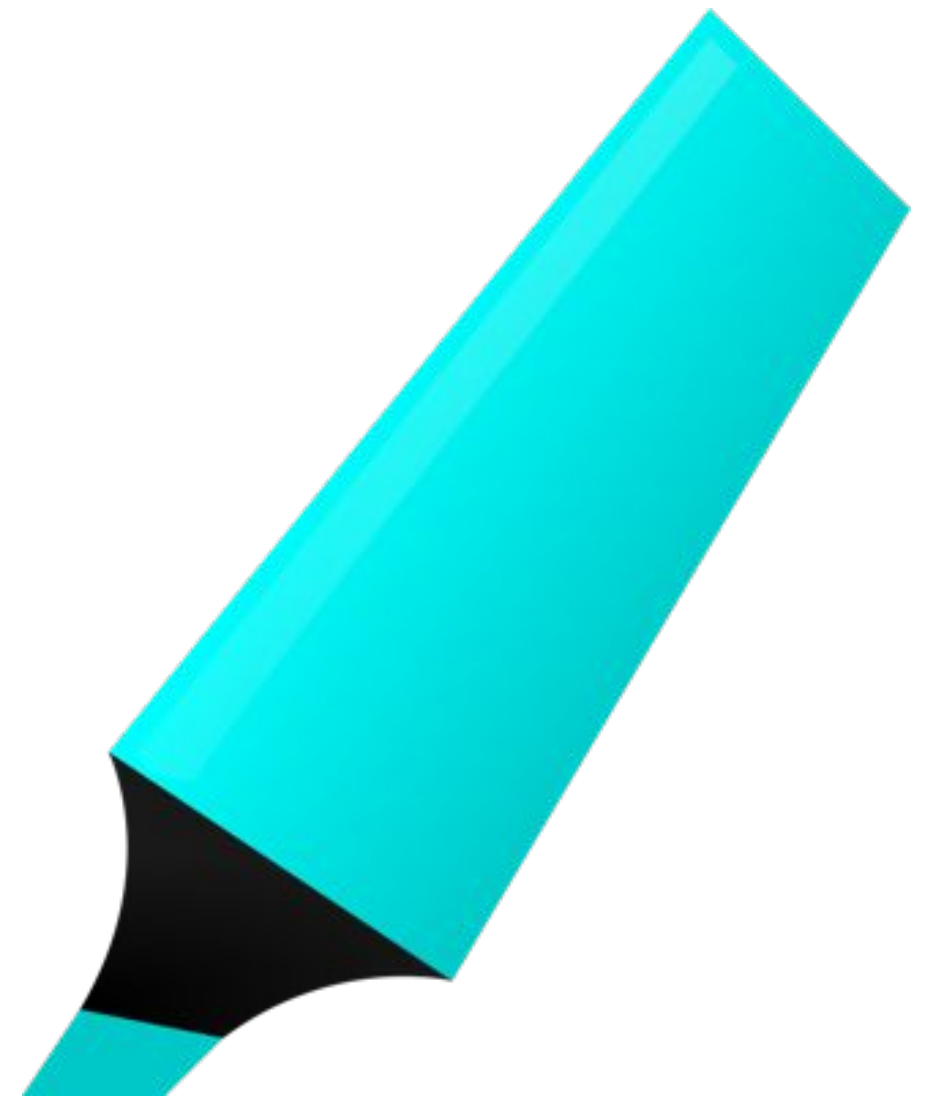
Instructional Strategies

- Traffic lights (show understanding, control classroom management or flow of station work)
- Thumbs up (demonstrate student understanding)
- Wait time (teacher response is delayed to evoke greater thinking)



Instructional Strategies

- Making aims clear (be clear about your objectives!)
- Lesson target setting (set targets at the beginning of lessons – celebrate accomplishments)
- Color-coding squares or highlighting (yellow=pre-instruction, blue=midway lesson, green=in between or now understood after review)



Instructional Strategies

- Scene setting (set the scene for the lesson by opening with a broad discussion point)
- Wait and recap (allow students to draw out key words and paraphrase through discussion)
- Graphic organizers (reinforce knowledge using a different output format)



Discussion & Expression

“Hammering” in the key points solidifying a student’s base of knowledge.



Discussion & Expression

- Idea thoughts (peer feedback & evaluation)
- Tell your neighbor (think, pair, share)
- Bouncing ("bounce" ideas around the room to gather feedback and ideas)
- Learning Journal (collect and reflect)



Discussion & Expression

- Think through talking (encourage students to think about their discussions)
- All you know (students write down all of their existing knowledge about a subject before exploring it)
- Use post its to display knowledge



Discussion & Expression

- White “board meetings”
- KWL (what they know, what they want to know and what they have learned)
- Why is it best? (Have students identify their best example of work and explain why.)
- Active students (activity is the key to AfL)



Discussion & Expression

- Long and short term goals (reevaluate often and make them effective)
- Muddiest point (students write down one or two points on which they are most unclear and explore solutions)
- Discuss key words and reflect!
- Communicate using different techniques or styles



Student Evaluation

Allowing students to be a “driving force” behind their own learning.



Student Evaluation

- Self-assessment targets (learning goals to be revisited and compared to teacher targets)
- Student marking (self or peer marking assignments to take part in their own learning)
- Redrafting (use lesson time to redraft work in a supportive environment)
- Group feedback



Student Evaluation

- What is good? (Students discuss what makes a piece of work or question “good” and explain how they feel about learning targets.)
- Self evaluation (students analyze how and why they learn best based on their own feelings and accomplishments)
- Minute paper (students take one minute to summarize what they learned best and still need to improve upon in a single lesson)



Student Evaluation

- Foster collaboration (encourage a friendly and challenging learning environment)
- Generate and answer (students develop their own questions and practice answering them)
- Mark schemes (students develop their own grading system based on what they feel should be assessed)



Assessment & Feedback

Tightening learned skills and finalizing connections.



Assessment & Feedback

- Comment-only marking (teachers only make constructive comments on assignments)
- Incorrect discussion (use incorrect answers to allow students to analyze why it is incorrect and to think outside the box)
- Devise questions that challenge misconceptions, create conflict and explore ambiguity



Assessment & Feedback

- Mid-unit assessment (mini-benchmarks to assess progress)
- Improvement guidance (provide tips for improvement through written comments on assignments)
- Convey progress (allow students to see that their accomplishments are meaningful)
- Comment follow up (provide opportunities for students to discuss your comments with them for improvement and maintain open dialogue)



Big Picture

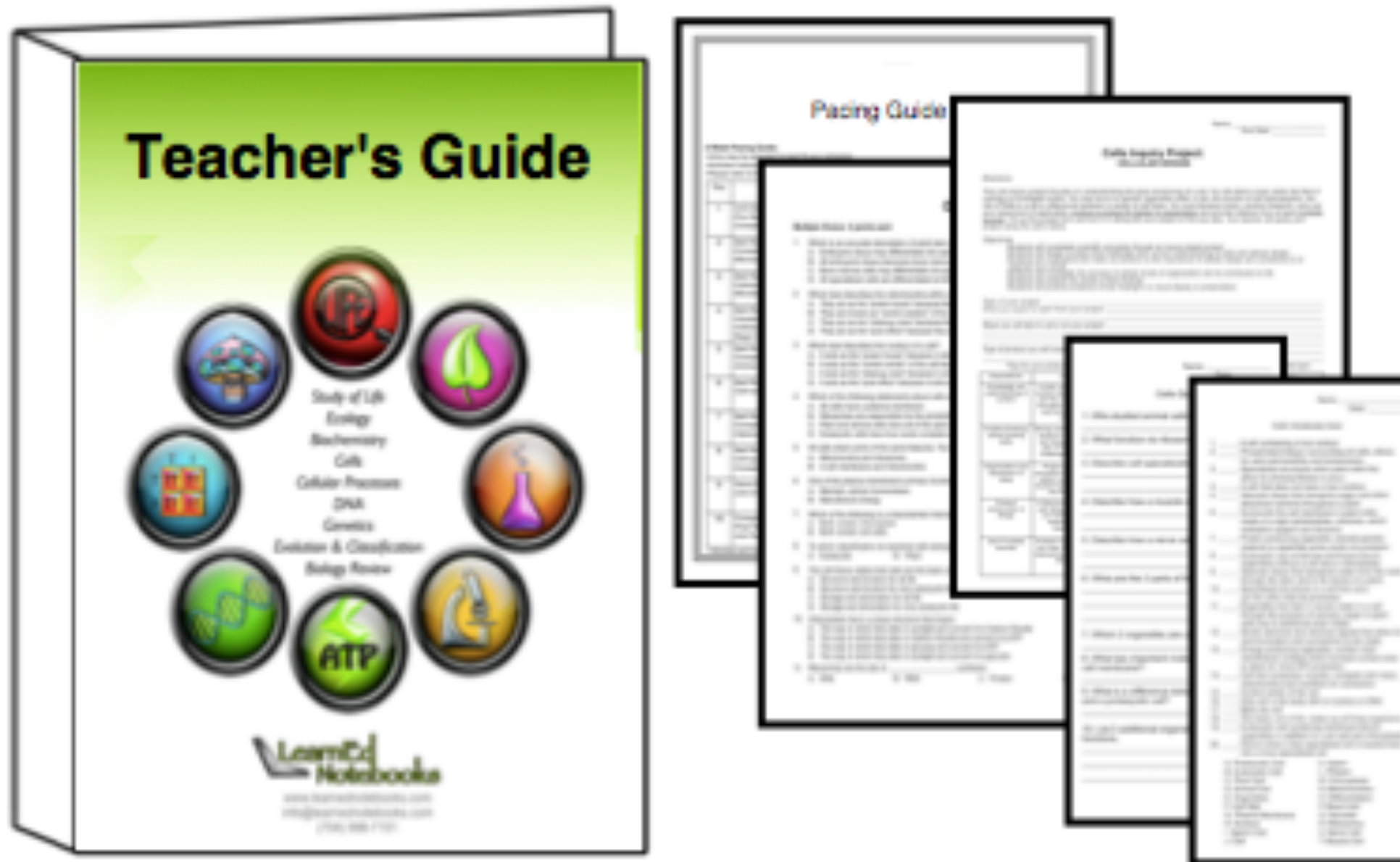
Completing your construction and refining your craft.
How can you ensure that all of your tools are being put
to use on top of a solid foundation?



Student Notebooks



Teacher Materials



Instructional Presentations

Bell Ringer

7. Which is an important protein carries oxygen throughout the


Dichotomous Keys

-Grouping, naming and identifying organisms:
-Dichotomous key: multi-step tool used to identify a species


1. a. Asymmetrical..... *Quercus alba* (white oak)
b. Bilaterally symmetrical..... go to 2
..... *Salix alba* (white willow)
..... go to 3
..... *Acer saccharum* (sugar maple)

The Periodic Table of Elements

A
B
C
D



Do you know the solutions?



Isotonic Hypotonic Hypertonic



Teacher tool
opportunity! –
KWL, making
predictions

Every notebook follows
the same format beginning
with a table of contents to
streamline instruction.



Vocabulary

Unit Organizer

Teacher tool
opportunity!
Incorporating
games

Prokaryote	Organism that does not have a nucleus
Eukaryote	Organism that has a true nucleus
Unicellular	Organism composed of only one cell
Multicellular	Organism composed of more than one cell; more complex than unicellular
Bacteria	Unicellular prokaryotes that live nearly everywhere; some are helpful and some are harmful
Protists	Unicellular eukaryotes that are found in many different environments
Organelles	The membrane-bound structures within a cell's internal space
Cell Wall	Surrounds the cell and provides support and protection
Cell Membrane	Layer surrounding the cell that controls what enters and leaves the cell
Cytoplasm	Gel-like material inside the cell where organelles are suspended
Nucleus	Control center of the cell containing genetic material
Lysosome	Organelle that contains enzymes to break down materials
DNA	Genetic material that codes for traits
Chloroplasts	Found in plant cells (and other photosynthetic organisms) that allow plants to make their own food
Mitochondria	Energy-producing organelles
Vacuole	Organelle that takes in excess water in a cell through the process of osmosis; stores materials
Plant Cell	Eukaryotic cell containing membrane-bound organelles in addition to a cell wall and chloroplasts
Animal Cell	Eukaryotic cell containing membrane-bound organelles without a cell wall or chloroplasts

Defined vocabulary lists and standards-linked unit organizers are included in each notebook.

All instruction is guided via a series of instructional presentations.

Teacher tool
opportunity!
Lesson target
setting

Pre-Check

- | | | | |
|----------|----------|----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 4. _____ | 7. _____ | 10. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 5. _____ | 8. _____ | 11. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 6. _____ | 9. _____ | 12. _____ |

Post-Check

- | | | | |
|----------|----------|----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 4. _____ | 7. _____ | 10. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 5. _____ | 8. _____ | 11. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 6. _____ | 9. _____ | 12. _____ |



Understanding aspects of organisms that enable them to survive, reproduce and carry out functions

Comparing structures of single-celled organisms

Euglena, Amoeba, Paramecium, Volvox

Movement

Nutrition

Comparing structures and functions of cells

Prokaryotic vs. Eukaryotic

Identifying organelles

Plant vs. animal organelles and structures

Summarizing organization of organisms

Cells, tissues, organs

Organ systems

Functioning of a complete organism

Pre-Check

1. Which organelle contains DNA?

- A. cytoplasm B. nucleus C. chloroplast D. vacuole

2. Which does not contain a nucleus?

- A. plant cell B. bacterium C. animal cell D. protist cell

3. What do all cells contain?

- A. cytoplasm B. nucleus C. chloroplast D. vacuole

4. Which general cell type always contains a cell wall and chloroplasts?

- A. plant cell B. bacterium C. animal cell D. protist cell

5. What allows plant cells to take in sunlight and produce food?

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6. Which stores water and materials in a cell?

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☒ D. vacuole



BELL RINGERS

1. Which of the following best describes a _____?

Answer: _____

2. A _____ cell is one that does not _____ a true

Answer: _____

3. _____ do not contain _____. They are classified as which cell type?

Answer: _____

4. Which cell part is most likely used for _____?

Answer: _____

5. A _____ organism uses which of the following _____ to pump out excess _____?

Answer: _____

6. Which best describes _____?

Answer: _____

7. Which _____ may use a _____ to move?

Answer: _____

8. Which _____ uses _____ to move?

Answer: _____

9. Which of the following _____ is the most _____?

Answer: _____

10. Which best describes _____?

Answer: _____

11. The _____ is contained within which _____ in a _____ cell?

Answer: _____

12. Which best describes the _____ of the _____?

Answer: _____

13. Which best describes the _____ of the _____?

Answer: _____

14. Which best describes the _____ of the _____?

Answer: _____

15. A cell has a _____, _____, and a _____. It is most likely which cell type?

Answer: _____

16. Which best describes the difference between _____ and _____ cells?

Answer: _____

17. Cellular _____ is _____ in which of the following _____?

Answer: _____

18. S _____

20. W _____ share?

Answer: _____

Every unit also includes 20 bell ringers guided by the instructional presentations

1. Which of the following best describes a cell?

- A. The smallest “unit of life” that makes up all living things
- B. The smallest “unit of life” that makes up select living things
- C. The smallest form of matter
- D. The smallest form of an atom

15. A cell has a cell wall, chloroplasts, and a true nucleus. It is most likely which cell type?

- A. Bacterium
- B. Animal cell
- ☒ C. Plant cell
- D. Fungus cell

Intro to the Cell

What are cells? _____

There are two types of cells that compose all living things:

_____ and _____

Prokaryotic Cell: _____

Eukaryotic Cell: _____

What is a nucleus? _____

Use the diagram below to research and compare these two cell types:



The Cell Theory:

-Consists of _____ parts:

1. The cell is the basic _____ and _____

2. All _____ the _____

3. Every cell comes from an existing _____ cell

-Cells go through _____ in _____

order to _____

-Creates an _____ copy

-All cells contain _____

" _____ "

-Help the cell complete a variety of _____

-What makes a cell have a certain role?

-All cells contain _____

" _____ (bundled in _____) "

In the space below, create a graphic organizer to summarize what you know about cells and their purpose.



Teacher tool
opportunity! –
Highlight for
understanding



Intro to the Cell

- What are cells?
- The basic unit of the structure and function of living organisms
 - There are two types of cells that compose all living things:
 - Prokaryotic and Eukaryotic

Intro to the Cell

- **Prokaryotic Cell:** A cell that does not contain a nucleus (bacteria)



Microbiology

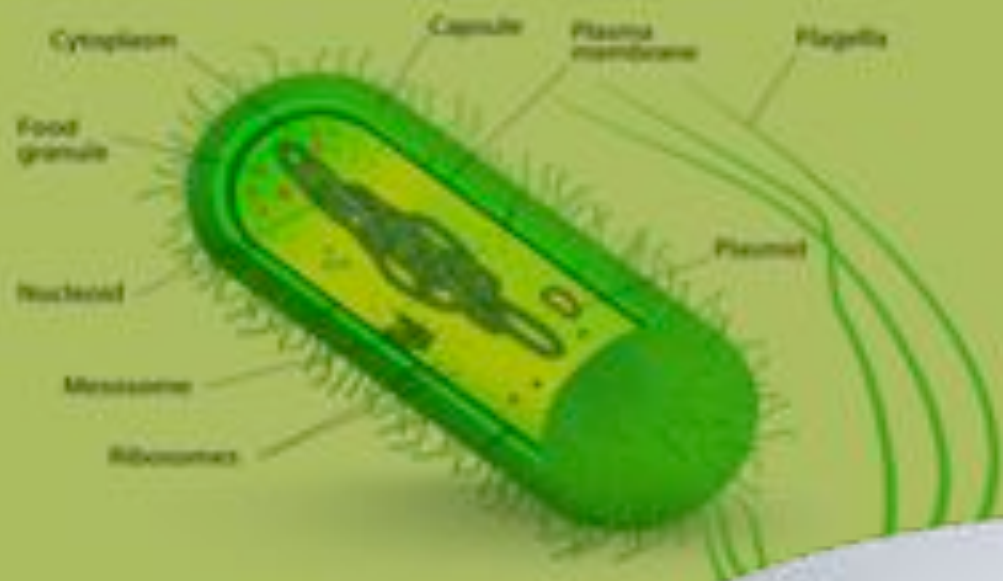
Microbiology involves the study of _____

- Mostly _____
- Some _____ and disease-causing

Important discoveries in microbiology:

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Bacteria are _____ organisms with specialized structures to help them accomplish life functions



- Cytoplasm: _____
- Ribosome: _____
- Plasmid: _____
- DNA: _____
- Pili: _____
- Flagellum: _____
- Cell Membrane: _____
- Cell Wall: _____

Bacteria

Bacteria have three different shape classifications:

1. _____ (_____)
 - Example: _____
2. _____ (_____)
 - Example: _____
3. _____ (_____)
 - Example: _____



Complete the following chart by researching information about these common strains of bacteria:

Species	Characteristics	Impact
Escherichia coli		
Staphylococcus aureus		

Activities focusing on inquiry and student-centered learning are incorporated throughout each unit.



Examining Unicellular Organisms

Euglena

Description

Structure



Amoeba

Structure

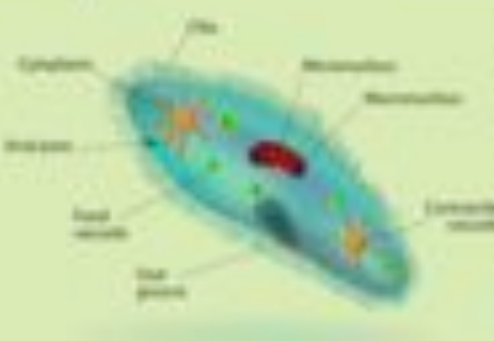
Description



Paramecium

Description

Structure



Volvox

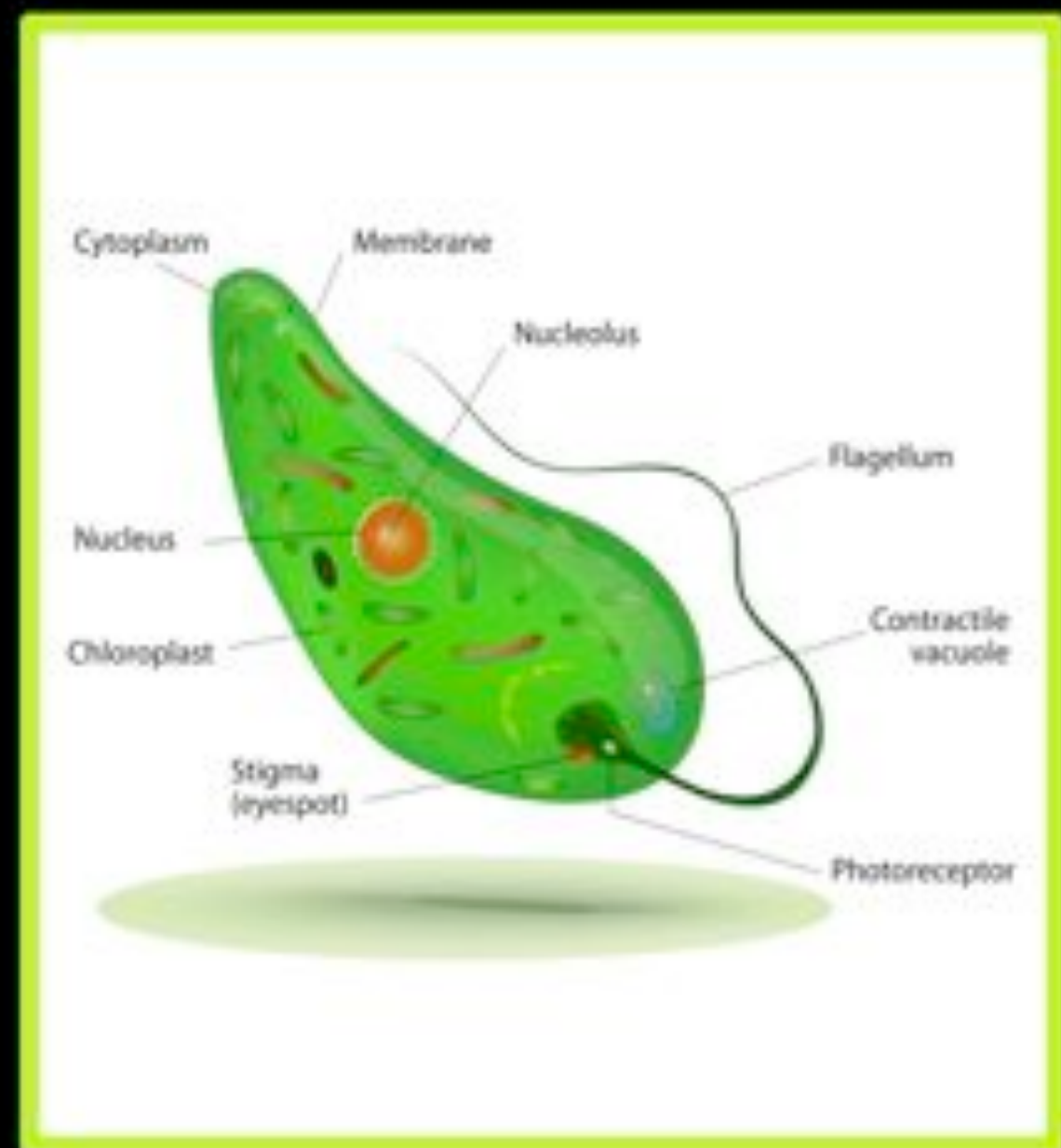
Structure

Description



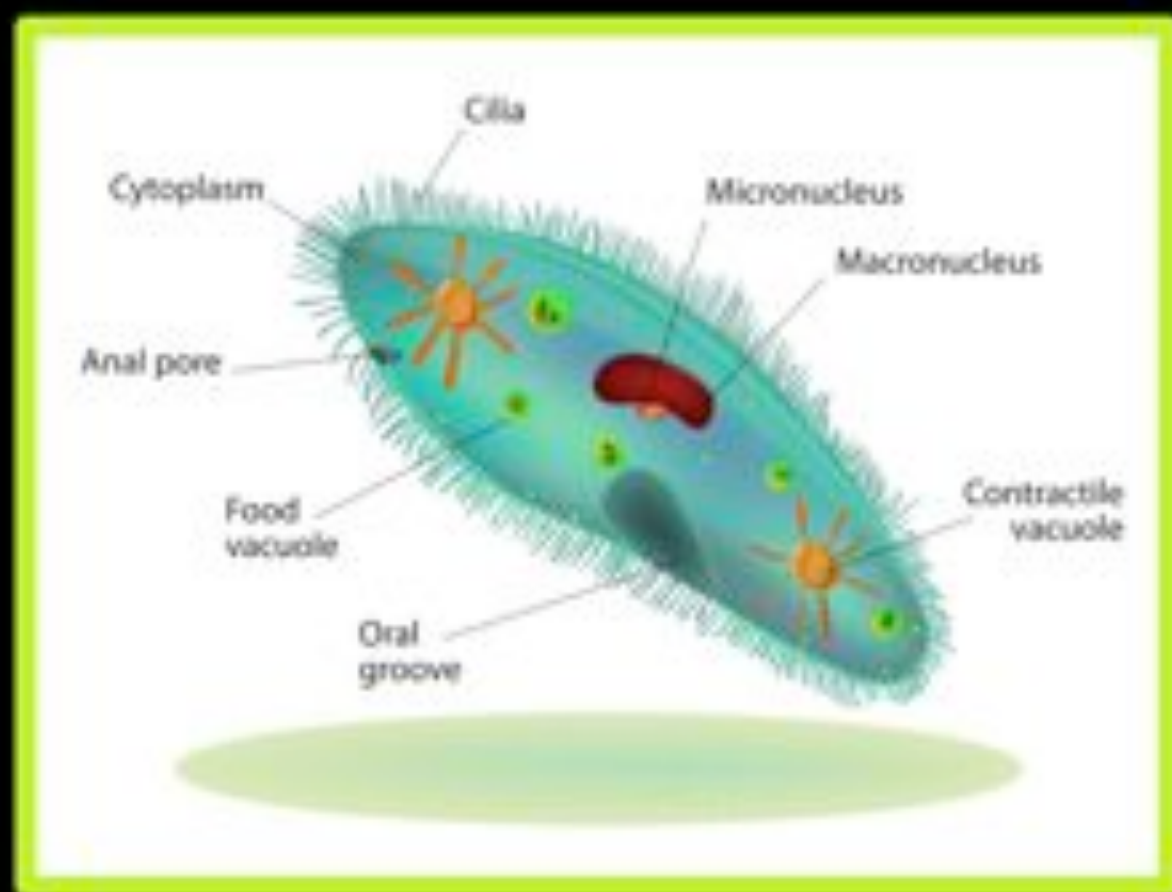
Examining Unicellular Organisms

- **Euglena:**
 - Freshwater organism that may contain chlorophyll (photosynthesis)
 - Eye spot
 - Moves with a flagellum



Examining Unicellular Organisms

- Paramecium:
 - Water-dwelling protist
 - Most complex
 - Most specialized
 - Moves with cilia



Animal Cells

Complete the chart below describing how the organelle or cell part functions specifically in an animal cell.

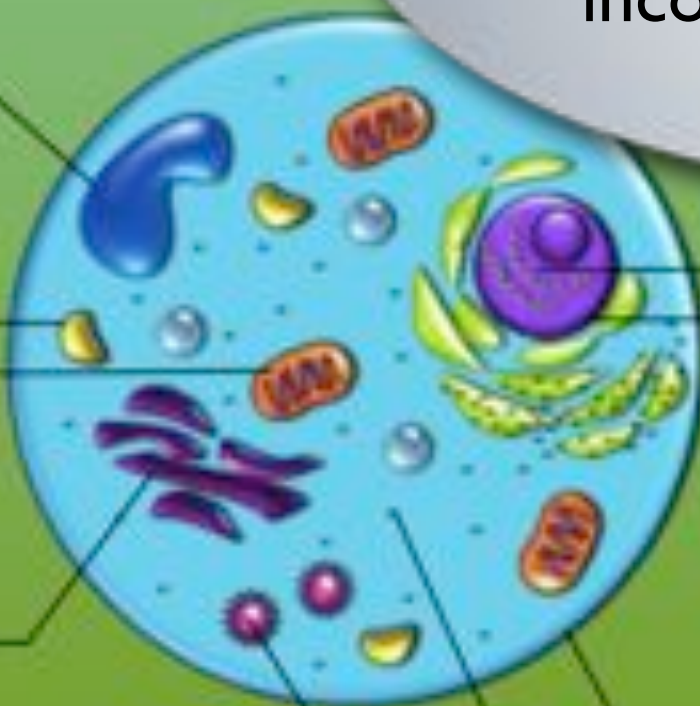
Organelle	Function in an Animal Cell	Color-Code
DNA		
Cell Membrane		
Nucleus		
Vacuole		
Centrioles		
Golgi Apparatus		
Mitochondrion		
Ribosome		
Lysosome		

Plant Cells

Complete the chart below describing how the organelle or cell part functions specifically in a plant cell.

Organelle	Function in a Plant Cell	Color-Code
Cell Wall		
Cell Membrane		
Nucleus		
Vacuole		

The entire program is designed to cover instruction for the complete course, allowing teachers to focus on incorporating new ideas and strategies.



Comparing Cells

Cell Type	Primary Function	Organelles Present

Unit Review

1. All living organisms are composed of at least one _____
2. What type of cell does not contain a nucleus? _____
3. What type of cell contains a true nucleus and membrane-bound organelles? _____
4. What is the purpose of DNA? _____
5. Which organelle contains DNA in a eukaryotic cell? _____
6. The vacuole is responsible for storing excess _____
7. Describe the function of the mitochondria: _____
8. Describe the function of the chloroplasts: _____
9. List three differences between prokaryotic and eukaryotic cells: _____
10. List three differences between plant and animal cells: _____
11. How does a cell wall benefit a plant cell? _____
12. What membrane encloses the nucleus? _____
13. What are three components that all cells have? _____
14. Give an example of a protist: _____
15. Describe a difference between a protist and bacterium: _____

Every unit ends with a unit review complete with a standards-linked written assignment.



Unit Review

16. What is the difference between cilia and flagella? _____
17. How does a euglena move? _____
18. How does an amoeba move? _____
19. How does a paramecium move? _____
20. What are the three shapes of bacteria? _____

Written assignment: Cells are known as the basic units of structure and function for life. All living organisms are composed of at least one cell, each with different structures that perform different tasks. Discuss the importance of cells to living organisms. Use at least three supporting details.

Teacher tool
opportunity! –
Discuss key words

Notes



Teacher tool
opportunity! –
Group learning
and games

A set of color-coded flashcards
on the back cover provides
students with an additional study
tool.

"Basic unit of
structure and
function for all life"

Cell containing a
nucleus

Cell without a
nucleus

External organelles
used for movement

Example of a
prokaryotic cell
(unicellular but may
live together in
colonies)

Group of usually
single-celled
organisms with true
nuclei

Made of more than
one cell

Made of only one cell

All cells must go through
a process of cellular
division in order to
reproduce (all cells
come from preexisting
cells)

Group of cells
working to achieve
the same function

Organelle that helps
the cell digest
particles

Structure that holds the cell
membrane in plant
cells

Stores mostly water
(much larger in
plant cells)

Group of tissues
composing the
same structure for a
specific function

Gel-like substance
that holds the
organelles in place

Site of
photosynthesis in
plant cells

Make cellular
energy by carrying
out aerobic
respiration

"Little organs" that
carry out internal
cellular processes

Contains
chloroplasts and a
cell wall

Does not contain
chloroplasts or a
cell wall



Prokaryotic	Eukaryotic	Cell
Protist	Bacterium	Cilia/Flagella
Cellular Reproduction	Unicellular	Multicellular
Lysosome	Tissue	Nucleus
Organ	Vacuole	Cell Wall
Mitochondria	Chloroplasts	Cytoplasm
Plant Cell	Animal Cell	Organelles

Post-Check

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6. Which stores water and materials in a cell?

- A. vacuole B. nucleus C. chloroplast D. cytoplasm

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C. chloroplast

D. cytoplasm

Test Review



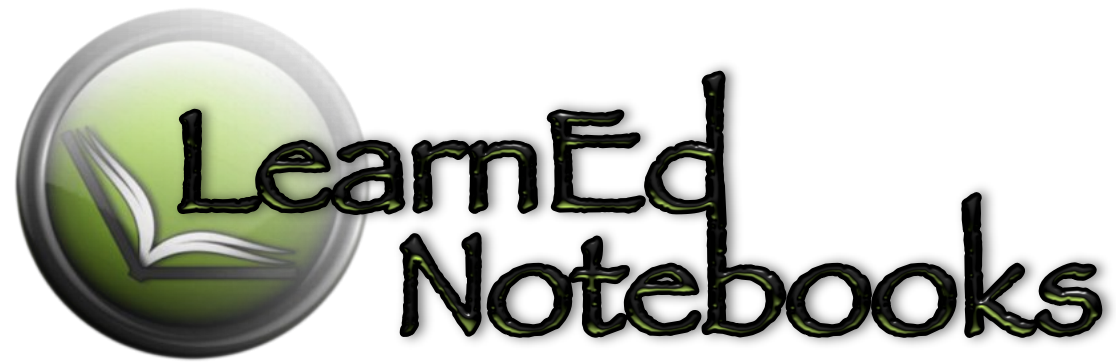
What is the smallest unit of life?

A cell

(How might a single cell thrive as a complete organism?)

What is a “little organ” in a cell that carries out specific tasks?

*An organelle
(How are cells specialized to carry out different tasks?)*



Testing Results & Data

Proficiency	2013-2014
Showed an increase	27 out of 28 schools - 96.43%
Showed at least 10% increase	17 out of 28 schools - 60.71%
Showed at least 15% increase	14 out of 28 schools - 50%
Showed at least 20% increase	7 out of 28 schools - 25%

*District-wide participants met or exceeded growth