

# CHEEK INVESTIGATION

## Prepare a cheek scraping

1. Put a drop of methylene blue dye in the center of a slide.
2. Use the broader end of a clean flat toothpick to scrape the inside of your cheek. Make five or six gentle scrapes.
3. Use the scraping end of the toothpick to stir the drop of methylene blue for 1 minute.
4. Dilute the drop of methylene blue with 4 drops of water. Stir again.
5. Place a coverslip on the slide. Use blotter paper to absorb the liquid from the edge of the coverslip.
6. View the slide at different powers. Adjust intensity of the light.

## Record observations

Draw and describe what you see at 400x.

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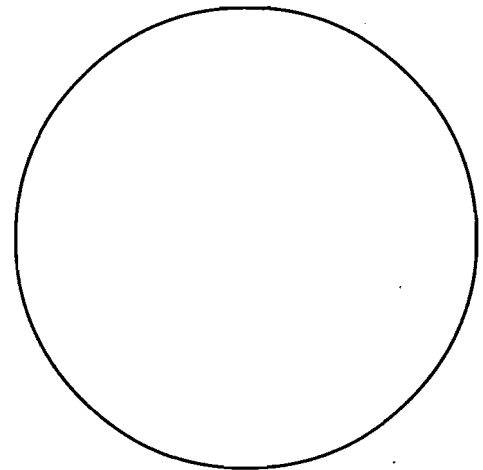
\_\_\_\_\_

size = 0.4mm

# times cell fits across

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



## Questions

1. What is the inside of your cheek made of?

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2. What do you think other parts of your body are made of?

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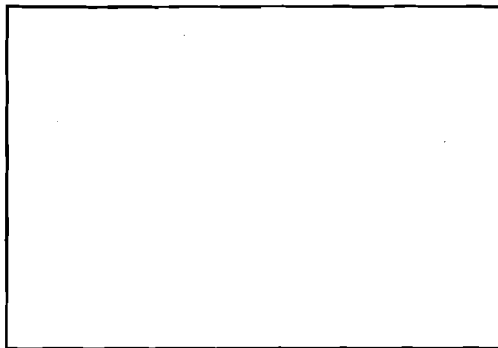
## Clean Up

Wash off your own slide and coverslip and properly dispose of your toothpick.

**Activity** (continued)**Data and Observations**

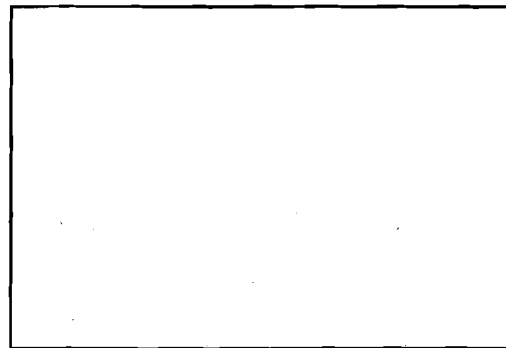
Table 1

Cell part	Elodea	Cheek
Cytoplasm	1.	
Nucleus	2.	
Chloroplasts	3.	
Cell wall	4.	
Cell membrane	5.	

*Elodea cell*

Cheek cell

(Copy from Front)

**Conclude and Apply**

1. Compare and contrast the shapes of the cheek cell and the *Elodea* cell.

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2. What can you conclude about the differences between plant and animal cells?

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**Communicating Your Data**

Draw the two kinds of cells on one sheet of paper. Use a green pencil to label the organelles found only in plants, a red pencil to label the organelles found only in animals, and a blue pencil to label the organelles found in both. For more help, refer to the Science Skill Handbook.