

Planarian Regeneration Lab

1. Observe the Planaria under the dissecting microscope.
2. Estimate its dimensions using the ruler in dissection kit.
3. Make a diagram of your observations.
4. Photograph your original planarian.
5. Using a scalpel, make a quick cut.
6. Photograph the cut sections.
7. Place the sections into a short beaker filled halfway with spring water.
8. Label your beaker.
9. Place the beaker in a dark place at room temperature.
10. If your planarian dies, you must start over.
11. You must change your planarian's water every other day (always Fri. and Mon.)
12. Remove any dead sections of your planarian if they die.
13. Make a journal for your lab.
 - a.) Must be typed.
 - b.) Photographs: Whole planarian, cut sections of planarian, intermediate stages, final products.
 - c.) Sketches of organism (showing changes or maybe pointing things out....)
 - d.) Dated Daily observations
 - i. How and where you made your initial cuts
 - ii. Description of movement
 - iii. Color changes
 - iv. Sensitivity
 - v. Reactions to light, water movement, and touch
 - vi. Descriptions of visible healing.
 - vii. Should be of what you observe, not what you feel...unacceptable example "My planarian is sad because he is not swimming."
 - viii. Comparison to progress of classmates' planaria.

Example:

Observation Number	Date	Observations
5	5/12/04	<p>Both Halves were swimming.</p> <p>The cut end of the anterior portion showed signs of regeneration. You can see a pointy structure that resembles a new tail.</p> <p>The cut end of the posterior portion was white in color, but there was nothing that looked like a new head forming.</p> <p>The anterior portion responded to a light touch with a toothpick, but the posterior end did not respond at all.</p> 