

Lesson 12

Instructions for Using the Digital Microscope (for students)

1. The teacher will initially set up the microscope for viewing. DO NOT MOVE it from its location!
2. The digital microscope is very lightweight- use care when handling it so that you do not spill your sample or knock the microscope off. Only 1 person's hands should be on it at a time!!
3. The height is adjusted by turning either of the knobs on the side.
4. The microscope head is secured by tightening the smaller knob.
5. Using the pipette, place one drop of your sample onto the petri dish, then slide it under the microscope.
6. Turn the light on using switch on the wire that connects to the computer.
7. You will see the image of your sample on the computer screen- make sure you maximize the image.
8. Hold the microscope steady with one hand as you slowly and carefully adjust the focus by turning the silver portion with your other hand.
9. Never touch the lens with your fingers! The plastic guard on the end protects the lens- do not remove it!
10. Draw what you see on the computer screen and write down a description in your science notebook.
11. When your observation is complete, turn off the light, remove your specimen, and pour it out into the catch bucket. Wipe up any spills!