



***\*GSCCC DIY Microscope kit - We are made of cells!***

**Supplies:**

- Prepared human cheek cell slide
- Blank microscope slide
- Toothpicks with flat edge
- Gloves
- Methylene blue stain
- Water in squirt bottle
- Microscope
- Paper, pencil, markers/paint

**Directions:**

Wash and dry a blank microscope slide. With the flat side of the toothpick, gently scrape the inside of your cheek to collect cells. Transfer the cells to the slide by wiping the flat end of the toothpick on the slide. Let the slide dry. With gloved hands, place a drop of stain on the slide and let it sit for 45 seconds. Rinse with water until it runs clear. Let the slide air dry. Using the instructions in the microscope manual, observe your own cheek cells. Alternatively, a prepared cheek cell slide can be observed. Draw or paint your observation, always include:

Name \_\_\_\_\_ subject of observation

Date \_\_\_\_\_ magnification used

Labels (nucleus, cell membrane)

**STE(A)M Subject(s):**

Life Science/Biology: organization of life (cells-tissues-organs-organism), cell structure, tissue structure, nucleus, DNA, bacteria, recording observations, scientific data collection, drawing & painting life

**Related Badge(s) or Journey(s):**

(J) Detective (C) Special Agent

**Additional resources:**

Cheek cell labels:

<http://jacusers.johnabbott.qc.ca/~paul.anderson/histolabdiags/figure1/cheekcellsOILBL.jpg>

Human body organization: <http://www.ck12.org/biology/Organization-of-the-Human-Body/lesson/Organization-of-the-Human-Body-BIO/>

*\*GSCCC DIY Microscope Kit is available council-wide for check out!*

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