

Grading of Biology Lab Reports



A Really Good Lab Report:

- ◆ Will show **understanding** of the activity and the results.
- ◆ Will be **neat** and **methodical**
- ◆ Could be **understood** by someone who wasn't there.
- ◆ Should have a **cover sheet** with a purpose, method and summary/conclusion, and separate **drawing sheets**.

Details

- ◆ **Microscope and dissection** experiments should be written up on the **specially designed sheets** that we issue to the students. (please make sufficient copies)
- ◆ Experiments done **at home** - such as the pond field trip, should be written up with a purpose statement, observations, possibly including drawings, and a summary of what was learned and experienced.
- ◆ A few experiments follow the **scientific method format** - these should be written up on ordinary paper, with a heading, purpose statement, method, results and conclusion. We will do this together in class, but it may be rewritten for neatness at home if desired.

Do:

- ◆ **Ask questions** if you don't understand. (It is not foolish to ask questions. It is foolish to sit through and write up an experiment that makes no sense to you.)
- ◆ **Think** before you write
- ◆ Observe and record small **details**
- ◆ Use a **ruler**
- ◆ Make large, **clear drawings in pencil**
- ◆ **Write legibly**

Don't:

- ◆ Draw in **pen!**
- ◆ Hand in pages **torn** from a notebook with ripped edges or with the rough edges still attached.

Lab reports are due at the class following the lab class. A report is due for each experiment completed. A report that is not handed in will receive a zero grade, unless you have an excused absence from that class.