

GROUP PROJECT - Unit on Cells

Children's Book

An interdisciplinary project has been planned. It will incorporate the science of cells, the narrative writing process of language arts, and graphics, composition, balance, and color in art. The end product will be an illustrated children's story. The characters of the story will be the parts of a cell where the role of each character takes on the function that the cell part it represents has in a cell.

Objective: Students will write and illustrate a children's story which will demonstrate an understanding of the structure of a cell and the function of its parts.

Target Audience: 9-10 year olds (4th or 5th grade)

Requirements:

1. Story will be 5-7 pages in length
2. Front Cover to include:
 - Title of story
 - Authors of story
 - Illustrators of story
3. Back Cover to include:
 - Summary of story (remember not to give away the ending)
 - Copyright Date
4. Character List
Story must include a minimum of 5 characters
Character list must include the following cell parts:
 - Nucleus
 - Mitochondria
 - Cell membrane

Choose any two additional characters from any of the remaining cell parts

5. The function of each cell part used in the story must be incorporated into the storyline
6. Written portions and illustrations must be well balanced on the pages

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Group Responsibilities

Facilitator:

- Set the *tone* for your group (keep it positive)
- Help guide group as all decide how best to tackle the project
- Be certain each member has opportunity to share
- Make sure all members come to *consensus*
- If student is absent, *reassign the responsibility if necessary*

Recorder:

- Record all notes shared by group
- Identify which members contribute the ideas
(use initials next to contribution shared)
- Read back notes periodically to be certain all are in *consensus*

Materials Coordinator:

- Keep your group folder organized!
- Check that all materials (notes, handouts, graphics) are accounted for in folder
- Distribute materials as needed
- Collect folders at end of period and place in designated area

Timekeeper:

- Help facilitator to keep group on track!
- Keep an eye on the clock and communicate with facilitator so that activity and clean up can come to closure in designated time allowed
- Communicate with Mrs. Stolting if your group is having trouble working within allotted time

Every member of the group is vital to your success!!

Have fun!!

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Job Titles

Writer(s)/Editor(s):

- Combine ideas from group into a rough draft of the storyline
- Edit/Revise rough draft - check spelling, punctuation, grammar, etc.
- Work with Layout Artist(s)/Illustrator(s) to determine location of page breaks
- Type storyline with page breaks
- Type summary for back cover

Layout Artist(s)/Illustrator(s):

- Determine content of illustrations
- Work with Writer(s)/Editor(s) on location of page breaks
- Draw rough sketches of illustrations
- Draw and Color final artwork
- Create and Color cover page

All members of the group help to assemble their group's final product.