

# CHEEK INVESTIGATION

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## Prepare a cheek scraping

1. Put a drop of methylene blue dye in the center of a slide.
2. Use the broader end of a clean flat toothpick to scrape the inside of your cheek. Make five or six gentle scrapes.
3. Use the scraping end of the toothpick to stir the drop of methylene blue for 1 minute.
4. Dilute the drop of methylene blue with 4 drops of water. Stir again.
5. Place a coverslip on the slide. Use blotter paper to absorb the liquid from the edge of the coverslip.
6. View the slide at different powers. Adjust intensity of the light.

## Record observations

Draw and describe what you see at 400x.

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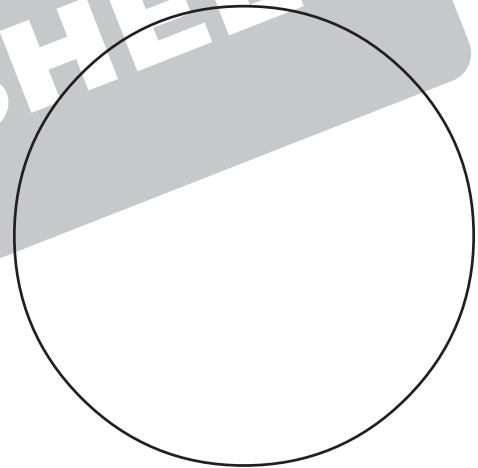
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## Questions

1. What is the inside of your cheek made of?

cells, which are flat—cellophanelike—with a nucleus

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2. What do you think other parts of your body are made of?

cells of different kinds to make different parts

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## Clean Up

Wash off your own slide and coverslip and properly dispose of your toothpick.