



Dissection Permission Form

PLEASE READ BEFORE SIGNING

Dear 7th Grade Students and Parents/ Guardians:

This year in 7th grade science, we have been studying life science topics. To help your child understand organ systems better, we are offering students the opportunity to participate in a frog dissection laboratory. This lab activity will allow student to see how body systems, organs, and tissues interact within a real organism.

We will conduct the dissection on Thursday, June 4 and Friday, June 5. Students will conduct the lab following a dissection manual, engaging in discussion with their partner(s), and whole group discussions. Students will be required to complete the Pre-Lab activities in order to participate in the dissection. If the Pre-Lab isn't completed they **WILL NOT** be permitted to participate in any part of the lab. Students will also be expected to complete lab drawings and observations.

It will be **VERY** important for students to play close attention to safety rules and to carefully follow the outlined procedure. In order to maintain the safety of all students, if a student is found to be engaging in horseplay, not following directions, or otherwise endangering him or herself or other students he or she will not be permitted to continue the dissection. He or she will be asked to complete an alternative assignment. Please read the safety concerns on the reverse of this letter.

Any student that does not qualify for this particular lab or does not wish to participate will be given an alternate assignment to do during that lab time that will count "in lieu of" the lab activity. If you would not like your child to participate in this lab or if your child doesn't wish to participate in this lab, he/she can complete the virtual lab dissection.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Recker and Mrs. Stuart (Cyclones)
Mrs. Coggins and Ms. Gentile (Hurricanes)

7th grade science teachers

Student Name: _____

____ I have read the safety concerns and understand the lab expectations. I will act in a responsible manner while participating in this lab activity.

Student Signature if participating in the lab

____ I have read the safety concerns and my child HAS PERMISSION to participate in the frog dissection.

____ I have read the safety concerns and I would like my child to be EXCUSED from the frog dissection. I understand that he or she will be expected to complete a virtual dissection on the computer in place this lab activity.

Parent/ Guardian Name Printed

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date



Safety Concerns

As with any science project, safety is our paramount concern. Accordingly, students must exercise caution and proper laboratory behavior while conducting the frog dissection. The most important safety concerns are:

- **Dissections tools.** We will use additional dissection tools such as short blade medical scissors and probes (metal point embedded in a wooden handle). Students failing to use these materials in the proper fashion or failing to mind their fingers could be injured.
- **Allergies.** Students with contact allergies to frogs or bugs (which may be in the frog's digestive tract) should NOT participate in this activity.
- **The preservative.** Despite safety precautions, students may come in contact with drops of the preservative. The preservative is Carolina Biological's "Safe" preservative. This is very different from the formaldehyde of 20 years ago. The "Safe" preservative has little odor and is designed for use in school dissections. However, caution MUST still be exercised.
- **Environment.** Students also must follow standard lab protocols and refrain from "playing" in the classroom. If students fail to follow rules, they will complete an alternative assignment. A safe learning experience is the goal.

Ethics

While the frogs have been farm-raised for use in scientific pursuits, the use of formerly living organisms for the pursuit of knowledge in the classroom is a controversial and serious issue. If you or your child feels that they do not want to participate in this lab the virtual dissection will be completed in its place.