7th Science Microscopes Materials Int

Speaker 1: All right, so we have the microscopes. I do put it to textbooks that they can reference. Most of them don't even look, but some of them do because they like to see pictures. It is where I got the lab from originally. It is very similar, especially as far as what they do, but there is changes because I try to simplify it because some of the text book is just not kid friendly. Plus they do another step that I'm not focusing on right now, as far as function. Lets see, we used Luall Solution, which is to stain cell membranes, forceps, the tube pipettes to administer anything if they needed to, that was actually for another lab, the beaker, the safety monitor logs, that they can monitor their own group as far as putting on their goggles. I guess the safety gear too; the goggles, the gloves, aprons.

I did use the digital microscope; well at least I had it up. I didn't really employ it as much as I'd like, but the digital microscope with their program pnuematic. That's really cool. I can even take pictures on the digital microscope so I can show it to them later. Or like my students was absent yesterday. He came and asked me, "So what do I do about when I'm absent?" "Oh I have pictures. I can show it to you. I'll print them up."

A few years ago the Macro to Micro books, the ones that we have, are actually what the whole school had.[00:02:00] It came down from the state actually. S.T.C, it was one of the national science ones that we as a middle school, Nalonie actually volunteered to pilot that one. It's a good program. It's just not the greatest. I just took it and adapted it for what I wanted. It's similar to some of the other books that we do have lying around. There are so many of them so it's easy to put out on the tables for the kids to reference. As far as the microscopes and the supplies...

The luall solution actually, that is from the book but also the skin/cheek cell one is actually from one of my colleagues. She doesn't work here anymore, but she goes, "Yeah, why don't we just use this? Why don't we just have the kids make their own?" I'm like, "Why don't we?" That's why one of the things I did change, is I added that; the instructions. It's different. The book actually has prepared slides, I think, which is you know okay just not as fun. They're not as good to see I guess.

I guess you know getting to be a scientist is always a fun thing. The onion; we chose the lab because one of the things that's easy to get is an onion. Kids all know what an onion is. As soon as they walked into the room they smelled it. They're like, "Mr. Pi what is that?" Or "Where is the onion?" That's nice for them to actually know what we're doing already, or using. Elodea is a very common aquarium plant that we have for all the fish tanks. That's another reason why we picked that particular lab. Although I think the book calls it anacharis or something and we're like, "Okay, whatever." [00:04:00] It's a mainland version I guess. So we use the elodea. I guess you need them just to be able to take it apart themselves and put it on the slide. That helps them to see that it's who they are.