

Microscopes Magnify Things

Cross-Curricular Focus: Science Investigations



Microscopes are tools that scientists use to make observations. When scientists make observations, they **record** their **data**. They will then share it with other scientists.

Even student scientists, like you, can use a microscope. With a microscope, you can see things that are too tiny to see with your eyes. Microscopes **magnify** things. They make them look bigger than they really are. Many things in **science** can be studied under a microscope.

Light microscopes have been used for a long time. Many different inventors worked on making the microscope. Robert Hooke and Anton Van Leeuwenhoek were two of its early inventors in the 1500s. Today's light microscopes work better than early ones. Some can magnify things 1,000 times!

A light microscope uses two glass lenses. The lenses are inside a short tube. A light bulb shines under the object you are looking at. It helps you see the object clearly. Little knobs like wheels can be turned to make the view sharp and clear.

Thanks to scientists, we know a lot about microscopes and how they work. You see a whole new world under a microscope. You just have to look!

Name: _____

Answer the following questions based on the reading passage. Don't forget to go back to the passage whenever necessary to find or confirm your answers.

1) What does a microscope do?

2) Who were two of the men who helped invent the microscope many years ago?

3) How do scientists let other scientists know about the things they observe so they can learn, too?

4) What is inside the microscope's short tube?

5) What are the little knobs on the side of a microscope used for?
