



Using a Compound Microscope

How do you use a compound microscope to see objects?

Have you ever used a magnifying glass? Objects under the magnifying glass look larger than real life. A compound microscope is like a magnifying glass that uses more than one lens to magnify small objects. In this investigation you will become familiar with the parts of the compound microscope. Then you will examine a specimen with microscope and practice using different levels of magnification.

Materials

- Compound microscope
- Power supply
- Clean glass slides
- Permanent markers
- Prepared specimens on glass slides
- Lens paper

1 Identifying the parts of the microscope



Look at the picture above. Each of the parts of the microscope is labeled. The major parts of the microscope are the light source, the specimen stage, the eye piece, and the objective lenses. You will find a description of the microscope parts at the end of this write up.