

## Inquiry Science Chapter 6 Compound Microscope Lab

**Introduction:** The human eye cannot distinguish objects much smaller than 0.1 millimeter in diameter. The compound microscope is a technology often used in biology to extend vision. It allows observation of much smaller objects. The most commonly used compound microscope (pictured below) is monocular (has one eyepiece). Light reaches the eye after it has passed through the objects being examined. In this activity, you will learn how to use, and care for a microscope.

**Materials (for team of 2 students):** 3 coverslips, 3 microscope slides, small beaker, 1 dropping pipet, compound microscope, scissors, transparent metric ruler, lens paper, newspaper, and water

### A. Parts of a Microscope

1. Sketch the image at right into your notebook and label its parts, indicated by the letters "A" through "L." Use some common sense, look at an actual microscope, or ask your teacher for help.

#### Microscope Parts

- ☐ Arm
- ☐ Sub-Stage Lamp
- ☐ Fine Focus
- ☐ Course Focus
- ☐ Ocular Lens (Eyepiece)
- ☐ Mechanical Stage
- ☐ Base
- ☐ Revolving Nosepiece
- ☐ Objective Lens – Low, Medium, and High Power
- ☐ Slide
- ☐ Light Adjustment (Diaphragm)
- ☐ On/Off Switch

