

Questions for Mr Rigby

Can micro-organisms be different sizes?

Can you name three different micro-organisms' scientific names.

Mr Rigby's Lesson

On Thursday 22nd March, Mr Rigby, a Science Teacher from Tweed River High School, visited our class after lunch with lots of microscopes and taught us all about them. He brought fifteen microscopes in total.

The first thing Mr Rigby taught us was all the different parts of microscopes, such as the course focus adjustment, fine focus adjustment, base, slide, stage clips, stage and eyepiece. The correct way to use a microscope is:

1. You set it to low power mode and switch the light on.
2. You wind up the stage so it is at its highest point.
3. You put the thing you want to look at on a slide and put it on the stage and secure it in place with stage clips.

Each student got a slide and a small piece of ripped newspaper. We put a few droplets of water on the newspaper to hold it in place. When I looked at it through the microscope it was backwards and upside down. I moved the microscope to the ripped edge of the newspaper and I was amazed. It looked like the paper would start growing and weaving together. It also reminded me of vines hanging off a cliff. I could almost see the individual pixels.

After that we returned our newspaper slides and traded them for some pre-prepared ones. There were onion, celery, petals, root tip and egg embryos. The celery was red and it looked like mini springs but much longer. I could see where some had touched it because it was smudged. The root tip was very interesting. It was dark green in the middle and there was a visible layer of light green around the edge. It reminded me of the tall green spikes I the ground in a fantasy jungle. The petals looked extremely cool. It was a collection of dark pink spots with a transparent pink outer layer. The onion was a wall of blue irregular hexagons and pentagons. The pentagon and hexagons were a translucent blue with dark blue outer lining and a few bubbles of dark blue. The egg embryo was clear, so red dye was added to make it visible. It looked like red splattered egg whites.

Those ones were really cool but we got much cooler ones when we traded them in. Mr Rigby put on my slide a live mosquito larvae! It had to be in water otherwise the immense heat from the microscope's light would kill it almost instantly. The mosquito larvae was a blob of translucent brown and black with a curled thing that looked like a tail attached to one end. It was jumping around but I could see it breathing and I could see some of its body parts that were inside it. One microscope didn't have a mosquito larvae under it. The thing under it looked like a centipede only much much smaller and without any legs. I could see two things on its face that looked like pinches or antenna. I could also see its few hairs.

Overall I really like doing stuff like that and I hope we can do it again!

Annabelle - 5/6C

Close the Gap” Excursion

I took six ATSI (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) students from Year 5 and 6 to Tweed Heads Civic Centre to find out what services are available for ATSI people in our community. The students were well behaved and had such a good time learning various things from health to places where they can access help if needed. Close the Gap is a great way for ATSI communities to come together to acknowledge and pledge their support to closing the gap in many areas of health, education, and a number of other ways. It was so nice to see the students so involved and learning about organisations in the local area and what they offer for our students and their families. **Mrs French - Teacher**



Here are some comments from the students who attended:

I liked 'Close the Gap' because it taught me that people support the aboriginal communities and I had great fun with my mates. **By Maison**

I liked 'Close the Gap' because I got to play the clapsticks and make a painting. **By Barkou**

I liked 'Close the Gap' because we had a chance to go into a raffle and we had a free healthy morning tea and lunch. I learnt about how too much sugar can make me sick. **By George**

'Close the Gap' was so much fun. We got to hear good didgeridoo music and we got so much free stuff. I got to go into a raffle and I might win a shirt. **By Tomas**

I enjoyed 'Close the Gap' very much because there was a huge party in the place and we got free healthy food. We got pens and pencils and candy, Yum!! We got to see how much sugar we drink daily. We also got jackets. I loved 'Close the Gap', it was the best day ever.

By Koral-Lee

When I went to 'Close the Gap' there was music playing and there was a lot of cool stuff that was for free. I learnt that lots of sugar is no good for you. **By Tekeyah**