

Under the Microscope

by M. M. Eboch



L

Amplify Atlas™

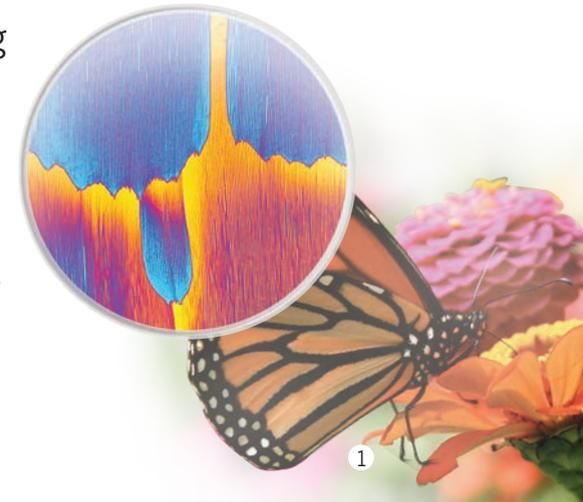
Under the Microscope

by M. M. Eboch

Scientists use many tools that help them see the world. One of these tools is a microscope. *Micro* means very small. *Scope* means a tool used for seeing. A microscope is a tool for seeing very small things.

You can see some small things with your eyes. With a microscope, however, you can see much smaller details. Think of a butterfly's wing. You can see it with your eyes. But a microscope can show you small parts of the wing called **scales**.

A butterfly's wing
under a microscope



Amplify Atlas™

Amplify Education, Inc.
55 Washington Street
Suite 800
Brooklyn, NY 11201
www.amplify.com

© 2014 Amplify Education, Inc. All rights reserved.

No part of this publication may be reproduced, transmitted, transcribed, stored in a retrieval system, or translated into any other language in any form or by any means without the written permission of Amplify Education, Inc.

Under the Microscope Level L

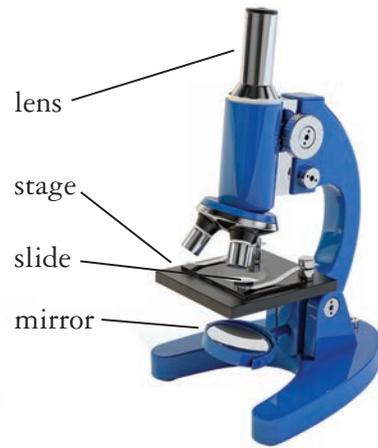
Author: M. M. Eboch

Image Credits

Cover: Andersen Ross/Blend Images; p. 1 (top): PASIEKA/Science Photo Library/Getty Images; p. 1 (bottom): Kimberly Hall/Shutterstock; p. 2: Fotolia; p. 4: Carolina Biological/Visuals Unlimited/Corbis/Imager Library

ISBN: 978-1-941554-38-8

Printed in the United States of America



The parts of a microscope

To make objects look bigger, a microscope has glass **lenses**. They are like the lenses in a pair of glasses. These lenses work together to **magnify** an object.

A flat part called the stage holds a glass **slide**. The slide is a thin piece of glass. You place the object you want to magnify on it. A mirror below the stage reflects light through the slide. This helps you see the object better.

One use for a microscope is to compare two different things. For example, you can compare tap water and pond water.

A glass of water from the sink should look clear. A glass of water from a pond may look cloudy. But there are other differences, too. You can see them under a microscope.

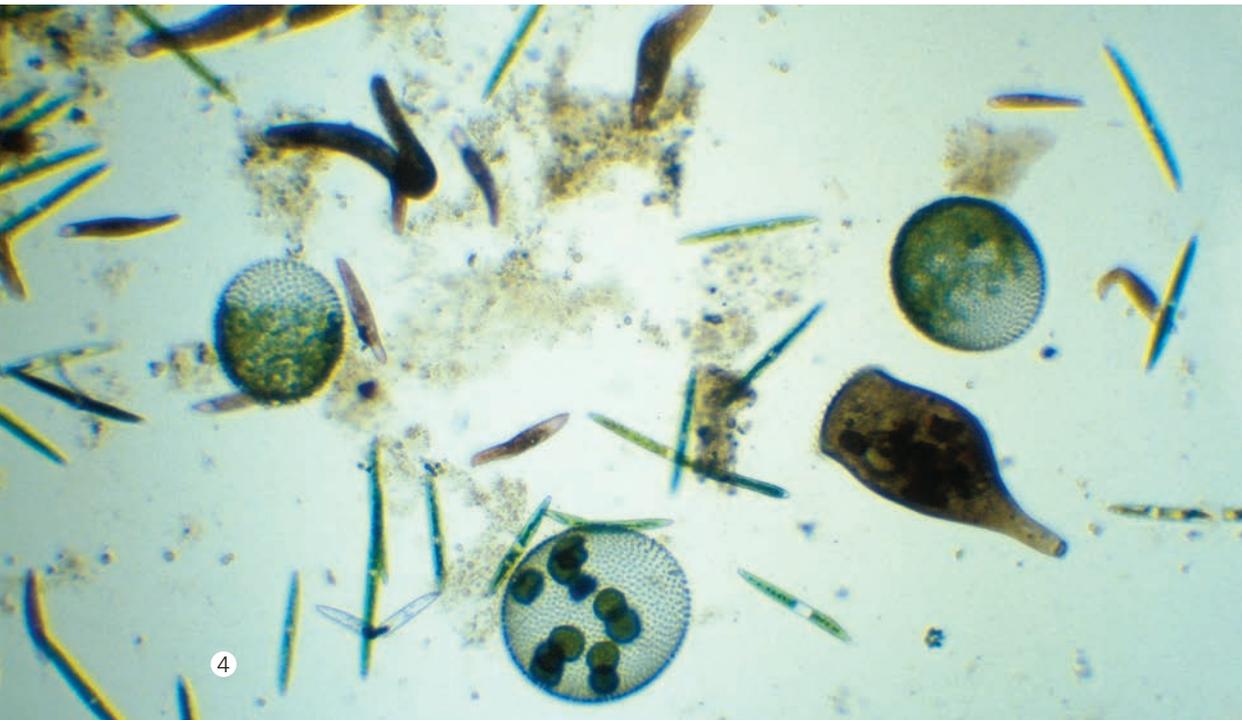
Here are steps for comparing tap water and pond water. Start by putting a drop of tap water on a slide. Put the slide on the microscope stage.

Look through the eyepiece. Turn the knobs to **focus** the lenses until you can see clearly. The tap water is most likely clear.

Now put pond water on a slide. Put that slide on the microscope and look at it. You should see many things in the water. They may look like tiny plants or animals. Some of them could be moving. They are very small living things!

Many tiny things live in ponds. They move around in different ways. With a microscope, you can see them. You can take a closer look at the world around you.

This is what pond water looks like under a microscope.



Glossary

focus (v.): to make an image clear and distinct

lenses (n.): pieces of curved glass

magnify (v.): to make something look larger than it is

scales (n.): small, flat parts of an animal's body

slide (n.): a small, thin piece of flat glass

Level L

Informational

Under the Microscope

Total Running Words: **335**

Lexile: **510L**



Published and distributed by **Amplify.**

