

Chapter 12

ENRICHMENT

Use with Section 2

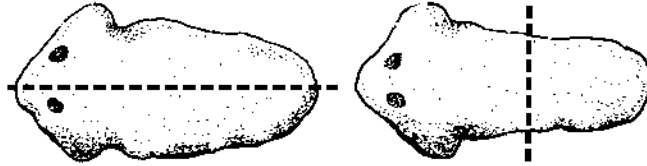
● Sponges, Cnidarians, Flatworms, and Roundworms

Planarian Regeneration

Materials



- large wide-mouth jar
- hand lens
- pond water
- spring water at room temperature
- cooked egg yolks or raw meat
- magnifying glass
- art knife



Procedure

1. Planarians can be found near the shoreline of ponds that have decaying leaves and other debris. Fill your wide-mouth jar with this shoreline material and a few inches of pond water.
2. Let the jar sit overnight. In the morning, planarians will likely be clinging to the sides of the jar. Planarians look like small, dark, jelly-like blobs. Remove much of the shoreline material, and add some more pond water.
3. Using the magnifying glass and art knife, carefully cut two planarians in half as shown above.
CAUTION: *The art knife is very sharp. Be careful when using sharp objects.* Return cut planarians to the jar.
4. Once a day, feed the planarians some egg yolk or raw meat. After about an hour, remove the remaining egg yolk or meat, drain as much of the water away as possible, and replace with fresh pond water or bottled spring water.
5. Observe the planarian parts for a week and then return them to a pond.

Data and Observations

What do your planarian parts look like after a week? _____

Conclude and Apply

1. Why did the planarian parts change? _____

2. How would regeneration affect the planarian population? Explain your answer.
