Close Up!

Procedure

1. **Collaborate** Work with a partner. Peel an onion until you find one of the thin, filmy layers of onion skin between the thick layers. **Safety:** Put on goggles and gloves.

2. Work on a paper towel. Put a piece of the filmy layer on a slide and put a cover slip over it. Put a small drop of iodine solution at the edge of the cover slip. **Safety:** Iodine solution is poisonous and can stain.

3. **Compare** Take off your goggles and gloves. Under the microscope examine the slide you prepared. Then examine the slide of human cheek cells that your teacher gives you.

4. **Record Data** In the box on the left, draw one tiny unit from the onion skin slide. Label your drawing *plant*. In the box on the right, draw one tiny unit from the cheek cell slide. Label this drawing *animal*. **Safety:** Be careful. Microscopes have delicate parts.
Conclusion
Write the answers to the questions below.

1. **Compare** How was the *plant* unit different from the *animal* unit? How were the units alike?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Alike</th>
<th>Different</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Onion</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cheek</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. **Ask Questions** Write a question about how the units function in a living thing.

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**Investigate More!**

**Ask Questions** What questions do you have about what you observed in this Investigate activity? Compare your questions with those of your classmates.