

Student sheet

Title: Classifying Fruit

Name _____

Introduction: Did you know a "fruit" is any fleshy material covering a seed or seeds? Knowing what the names of fruits are and what categories scientists put them in may seem like an unimportant activity. However, our ancestors were extremely interested in the characteristics of a newly discovered fruit. Their diets contained a lot of fruit and knowing which fruits could make you sick were important details to them. In this activity you will learn about how scientists classify fruit and classify a fruit that may be new to you.

Prediction: What fruit do you think the "mystery" fruit is?

Materials: pictures of fruit, an unusual fruit, Fruit key, dissecting knife or razor, biology text

Procedures:

Part A

1. Group the pictures of fruit into 3-7 categories. Fill in the data table and be sure to carefully describe the characteristics you used to group the fruits. The name can be anything you think helps identify the group. Use the number on the fruits to name them. Be prepared to share with the class one of your groups and what fruits are in it.

Part B

2. Use the scientific key provided by your teacher to reclassify the fruit. Fill in the data chart and answer the questions below.

Part C

3. Dissect the "mystery" fruit and decide which classification scientists would give it. Be prepared to share your answer with the class.

Part D

4. Read the pages in your textbook identified by your teacher. As you read, make connections to what you have just experienced in the lab. Write the sentences and the part of the lab that you can connect to on the table provided.

Questions:

1. How were the scientific key characteristics different from yours?
2. Which fruits surprised you to find in the same category?
3. Which fruits did you not think were fruits?

Part C

Draw your dissected fruit:

What category would it fit on the fruit key? _____

Part D

Page 3 and paragraph	What it says.	What it relates to in this lab.

Conclusion: (write a complete sentence describing the most interesting part of this lab and one sentences describing the least interesting part)