



Hello! My name is:



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Red Blood Cell



“Hello! My name is Red Blood Cell! I am one of many (more like millions/trillions) of red blood cells in your body. Red is my favorite color and Oxygen is my favorite element from the periodic table. Me and oxygen go way back and are still best friends today! I am kind of like Oxygen's taxi driver, always taking him to important places that he needs to be.....”



Helpful Ideas for Teachers

Hello Teachers!

This classroom activity can be used in a variety of ways and for middle and elementary school grade levels.

Purpose:

to help engage students in writing about informational text and science related content. As well as helping to engage students in writing about informational text while also adding a creative writing spin on the content.

Directions:

Students will select one of the GIANTmicrobes from the unit they are working on that they would like to research and write about. In the space below the heading/conversation bubble, students will draw a picture of the GIANTmicrobes they have selected. Depending on the one selected, teachers can have students label the various parts of the microbe. For example, if students selected a DNA molecule, they could label the nitrogen base pairs, phosphate backbone, and where the hydrogen bonds would be. Then, students will write a paragraph about their microbe from the perspective of the microbe as seen in the example with the red blood cell. Students can imagine what it would be like if they could talk to a microbe and learn about it from the source! And thankfully we have these cute GIANTmicrobes plushies to help us imagine! If you would like to add more to this activity, you could also have students do a think-pair-share, small group discussion, or class presentation where they read their creative and informational text. This can be a great way to help make students feel more comfortable with writing in science class and a fun way to learn using GIANTmicrobes !

Grade levels:

For elementary grade levels, this activity can be completed as directed, but teachers will decide how in depth they want to go on the material with regards to their grade level NGSS standards. The amount of writing can be adjusted and it can even be a great class writing activity where various groups of students are each providing a sentence or fact to add. For even younger, primary grades, this could even be a writing/drawing that the teacher creates to help introduce scientific topics to the class.

For middle school grade levels, teachers can require a certain amount of content to be added to the writing and increase the amount of writing the students must complete. This activity could also be part of a larger project/unit that students are working on.

