

The Living Environment > Cell Functions

Research on Student Learning

Preliminary research indicates that it may be easier for students to understand that the cell is the basic unit of structure (which they can observe) than that the cell is the basic unit of function (which has to be inferred from experiments). [1] Research also shows that high-school students may hold various misconceptions about cells after traditional instruction. [2]

References

- [1] Dreyfus, A., Jungwirth, E. (1989). The pupil and the living cell: A taxonomy of dysfunctional ideas about an abstract idea. *Journal of Biological Education*, 23, 49-55.
- [2] Dreyfus, A., Jungwirth, E. (1988). The cell concept of 10th graders: Curricular expectations and reality. *International Journal of Science Education*, 10, 221-229.