Fiber Evidence Lab

Name _____

A. Use a microscope to examine six fiber samples using 100X magnification. Draw a sketch of each fiber and write a description that would help you identify it.

Fiber: Description:	Fiber: Description:	Fiber: Description:
Fiber: Description:	Fiber: Description:	Fiber: Description:

B. Write a paragraph that compares the fiber samples you examined. What differences did you notice? What characteristics could you use to identify them?

Teacher Notes

I collected various fibers to create examination slides – cotton, wool, rayon, polyester, etc. If you have trouble finding fibers from fabrics, try finding different types of string or yarn that could be used for fiber samples. I used clear plastic packing tape to secure the fibers to the slides. You could also use clear nail polish.

Challenge Lab

For the challenge lab, I selected four fibers to create unknown samples. I used fibers that were similar in material to the known samples examined in the first part of the lab, but different in color in order to make it more challenging. Students worked in pairs to examine the unknown samples and match them to the known samples.