

The Cell Model Metaphor Assignment

A metaphor is using one thing to represent another thing. For example, a light switch could be a metaphor for an ignition in a car because it functions as a type of an on/off switch.

For this assignment, you are going to be assigned an organelle (or two) to find...and to bring in...something which can be considered a metaphor for your assigned cell organelle.

On a notecard, you will write:

1. The organelle you were assigned
2. The object you brought in to represent the organelle
3. A sentence explaining why you chose this object (what the two things have in common)

To come up with a good metaphor, think about the function of the organelle. Brainstorm other things that have the same or similar function. Choose one thing that represents it best...being sure to keep the size reasonably small, no items requiring refrigeration allowed, and no photos/pictures (must be the actual thing).

Assessment: Once all the classes have brought in their metaphor items, a metaphor cell will be assembled on a lab table and students will have to determine what each item stands for in the cell and why.

The structures in the metaphor cell will include:

Nucleus
Cell membrane
Cell wall
Cytoskeleton
Centriole
Ribosome
Chloroplast
Mitochondrion
Endoplasmic reticulum
Golgi apparatus
Lysosome
Vacuole