



genomics digital lab: plant cells

Overview

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Overview for Parents

Genomics Digital Lab: Plant Cells (GDLpc) is an engaging premiere computer application and game that gives you an 'inside' look at how plants work. It does this in two ways. Firstly, by allowing your child to use the computer as a 'digital microscope,' he/she can understand the anatomy of a plant on a cellular level. GDL provides an overview of the function of cell's major components and how they interact with each other to produce a healthy plant. Secondly, inside the built-in 'virtual laboratory,' your mission is to save our dying plant. You can alter the environment (air, light & soil), and venture inside the three main organelles to figure out the best conditions to get our plant to survive and thrive. They can adjust environmental conditions on the fly and immediately see its effect.

GDLpc is wonderful tool to supplement your child's plant biology unit in his/her biology class. You can use GDLpc at home with your children to help introduce them to the world of plants in and around your home, garden, and grocery store. Not only does it gives them a visual approach to a sometimes abstract topic, but it also keeps him/her interested by incorporating a game style and computer technology in an otherwise barren world of textbooks and pencils. Using the GDLpc in conjunction with your child's regular classroom instruction will provide him/her with a greater understanding of plant physiology and give them the necessary tools to excel in both this unit and the remainder of their biology course.

The GDLpc has been developed by a team of scientists, educators, game designers, and experts in the field to solidify key concepts taught in the biology classroom. It has been modeled on current curriculum so it will not be irrelevant to your child's education.