

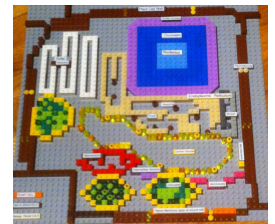
Dear 7th grade Parents,

For the last few weeks Life Science students have been working on a project to create a model of a plant or animal cell. The project will be made at home, and presented from home, but students have been given class time to work on it and have intermediate deadlines to complete along the way.



Here are some things you should know:

- This is supposed to be a low-key, low-stress project! There are deadlines, but anything can be flexible with no grade penalty if it meets a family's needs.
- Project overview, expectations, resource links, and sample projects can be found on the [Cell Project Slideshow](#).
- Deadlines and all document links can be found on the [Cell Project Task List](#)
- Students have [sketched](#) their cell in class. They should take it home to use as a blueprint for their model. Please note that even though students will pick a particular organism and cell type, that will only affect the **general cell shape**: at our level of detail a neuron from a human or a komodo dragon are the same. There's no need to engage in detailed research.
- Students have also created a rough draft of their [tour script](#) in class. They have a [note table](#) for facts, so all they need to do is decide the order they want to present their organelles and structures in, copy and paste the information from their notes, and add transition words. The goal is to sound like they are giving a tour, and not just reading notes. Students also researched their particular cell type so they could represent its shape (reasonably accurately), and give a brief overview of their cell's specific functions.
- Students may choose to make a 3-D model out of edible materials, legos, styrofoam, etc. They could also choose a 2-D computer or hand drawing, or to design a virtual model through Minecraft. Expectations for accuracy will be appropriate to the medium-- there is only so much detail one can add to a lego or m&m organelle!
- The model should be complete by whatever date that your student [signs up](#) for. Edible projects may work best if scheduled on the day after a weekend.
- All presentations will be recorded, and should not exceed 3 minutes (most are between 1 and 2). You might be recruited by your child to film them as they present. Students will need to upload a link to the [Virtual Tour Link](#) page two nights before their presentation date. They should also **test** the link on their Chromebook to make sure it will open when it's time to present.



Please let me know if you have any questions, or if your child needs flexibility with deadlines. Thank you, as always, for supporting your student and for supporting Tandem!

peace,
Anne