

Launch Lab

LESSON 3: 15 minutes

How is the structure of a spoon related to its function?

Would you eat your morning cereal with a spoon that had holes in it? Is using a teaspoon the most efficient way to serve mashed potatoes and gravy to a large group of people? How about using an extra large spoon, or ladle, to eat soup from a small bowl?

Procedure


1. Read and complete a lab safety form.
2. In a small group, examine your **set of spoons** and discuss your observations.
3. Sketch or describe the structure of each spoon in the Data and Observations section below. Discuss the purpose that each spoon shape might serve.
4. Label the spoons in your Science Journal with their purposes.

Data and Observations

Think About This

1. **Describe** the similarities and differences among the spoons.

2. If spoons were organisms, what do you think the ancestral spoon would look like?

3.  **Key Concept** Explain how three of the spoons have different structures and functions, even though they are related by their similarities.

	Explanation	Example
Comparative Anatomy		
Vestigial Structures		
Developmental Biology		
Molecular Biology		

Use pages 214-217 To fill in the table above

