

Alternatives To Animal Dissection

There are many alternatives to animal dissection as a method of teaching biology and anatomy. Here are some teaching materials you can suggest to your teacher, principal, or school administrator:

Videotapes

The Frog Inside-Out covers both the internal and external structures of the frog and compares them to human structures; available through Instructionvision, Inc. 3 Regent Street, Livingston NJ 07039.

Frog Dissection Explained (Bergwall Video Productions, Inc. PO Box 238, Garden City, NY 11530)

Dissection of the Frog (JLM Visuals, 920 7th Ave, Grafton, WI 53026)

Anatomical Models and Charts

Plastic models and charts are available from the following (call or write for their catalogues):

Carolina Biological Supply Company, Burlington, NC 27215 (800) 334-5551

Denoyer-Geppert Science Company, 5711 North Milwaukee Avenue, Chicago, IL 60646 (800) 621-1014

National Teaching Aids, Inc., 1845 Highland

Avenue, New Hyde Park, NY 11040 (718) 895-0898

Nystrom Division of Herff Jones, Inc., 3333 Elston Avenue, Chicago, IL 60618 (800) 621-8086

Ward's Natural Science Corporation, 5100 West Henrietta Road, P.O. BOX 92912, Rochester, NY 17692 (716) 359-2502

Ribbit, designed for younger students, is a soft-fabric frog with a zippered underside that reveals the major organs in color. Available from Scideas, 516 W. Ridgeway St., Warrenton, NC 27589.

Computer Simulations

A number of computer companies publish simulation software. Operation Frog (for grade 5-10) takes the user through every stage of dissection and offers animated illustrations of how the body works. Available for Apple II and Commodore 64 computers from Scholastic Software, Inc., P.O. Box 7502 Jefferson City, MO 65102, (800) 541-5513.

Cambridge Development Laboratory's Educational Software catalogue features a large selection of computer programs (for Apple II, Commodore 64 and IBM PC) that can replace the harmful use of animals for elementary through college students. Areas covered include General Biology and Botany, Biochemistry, Genetics, Population Dynamics, Physiology, and Anatomy. (Cambridge Development Laboratory, (800) 637-0047).

Books

Anatomy Coloring Book by Wynn Kapit and Lawrence M. Elson (Harper & Row) contains detailed illustrations of human systems and anatomy and is appropriate for high school and undergraduate classes.

The Zoology Coloring Book by Lawrence M. Elson (Harper & Row).

Laboratory Investigations in Human Physiology by George K. Russell, (available from the Myrin Institute, 521 Park Ave, New York, NY 10021) offers non-animal physiology lab projects for the college level.

Modern Biology Laboratories (Teacher's Edition) has eliminated all but one dissection, which is marked "optional" encourages the move to alternatives. (Holt, Rinehart and Winston).

Teaching Aids

Alternative Project Sheets is a collection of specific alternatives to some of the most common animal-related biology experiments and dissections. Available from the National Association for the Advancement of Humane Education, Box 362, East Haddam, CT 06423.

The Harvard Bio-Meter can replace frog pithing in the study of heart functions. The student is harmlessly used instead of the frog. Available through Phipps and Bird, Inc. 8741 Landmark Road, Box 27324, Richmond, VA 23261.

Scholarships Available

The American Fund for Alternatives to Animal Research (AFAAR) provides scholarships to students and high school teachers to study non-animal research methods at the Center for Advanced Training in Cell and Molecular Biology in Washington, D.C. For information contact: Dr. Ethel Thurston, AFAAR, 175 West 12th Street, #16G, New York, NY 10011.

