

Cnidaria Lab

Name: _____

This lab is to help familiarize you further with three of the seven classes of Cnidaria – Scyphozoa, Hydrozoa, and Cubozoa. You will need to make sketches of each organism and answer questions at each station. You will need your Cnidaria Notes to complete this lab. Please keep them handy so you can determine the class for each organism.

- **DO NOT THROW, SHAKE, OR MISHANDLE ANY SPECIMENS. Many of these specimens are very fragile.**
- **Do not open any jars. Leave them sealed to preserve it.**

Station 1: Examine the preserved specimen of the Portuguese Man of War, *Physalia*. Sketch it below.

Class _____

Please DO NOT SHAKE this jar!!
You will destroy the specimen if you do.
It is VERY FRAGILE!

Examine the diagram showing the labeled polyps of the colony. Try to identify the separate polyps on the preserved specimen.

1. List the function of each polyp
 - a. Gastrozoid: _____
 - b. Dactylozoid: _____
 - c. Gonozoid: _____
2. What is the main diet of the Man of War? _____
3. What is the pneumatophore? _____

Station 2: Examine the preserved specimen of the Ctenophore. Sketch it below.

PHYLUM _____

Please DO NOT SHAKE this jar!!
You will destroy the specimen if you do.
It is VERY FRAGILE!

4. How do these animals swim? _____
5. These used to be grouped with the Cnidarians. Why are they not now? _____
6. How are the ctenophores classified as far as feeding habits? _____

Station 3: Examine the preserved specimen of the Common Moon Jelly, *Aurelia*. Sketch it below.

Class _____

Please DO NOT SHAKE this jar!!
You will destroy the specimen if you do.
It is VERY FRAGILE!

7. This jelly is most commonly found close to the coast. Where else might it be found? _____
8. What does the moon jelly feed on? _____
9. What are “ephyrae”? _____

Station 4: Examine the printout (sorry, Cubozoans are tough to come by) of a Cubozoan. Sketch it below.

Class _____

10. Can you see where these animals get their name? Explain. _____
11. Why do you think it was made a separate class from other jellies? _____
12. List some defining characteristics of Cubozoans. _____

Station 5: Examine the slide containing the Hydra, *Obelia*. Sketch it below.

Class _____

13. What are some ways the Hydra can reproduce? _____
14. Based on what it says for *fecundity*, what do you think the word *fecundity* means?

Station 6: Examine the printout (sorry, Stalked Jellies are tough to come by) of a Stalked Jelly. Sketch it below.

Class _____

15. How big does this species get? _____
16. What marine environment is this jelly found? _____
17. How much has the population size of Stalked Jellies been reduced since the 1970s? _____

Station 7: Examine the slide of a *Physalia* tentacle (the Portuguese Man-of War). View the slide using the 40x objective. Focus on the coiled up nematocysts on the edges. Sketch it below.

Class _____

Make sure the
scope is on **40x**
when you sketch!

18. Describe what happens when a nematocyst is activated (how the venom gets from nematocyst to the victim).

19. What else are the stinging cells used for besides injecting venom?

