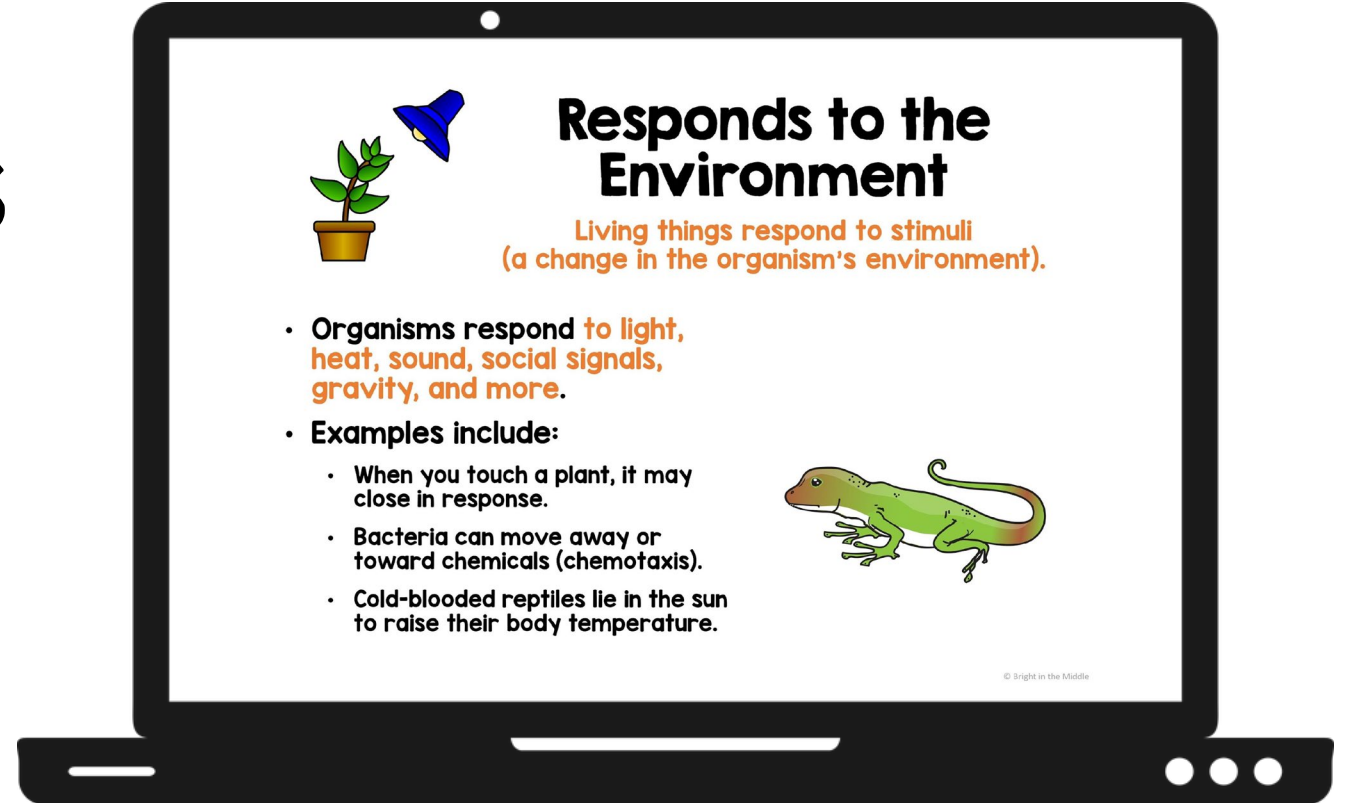


Characteristics of Living Things

Interactive Lesson

PRINT and DIGITAL



Compatible with Google Slides and PPT



The giraffe is living, and the water is not living. In the text box below, describe some characteristics you believe makes something "alive".

Type here.

A key is also included!

correct answer. 

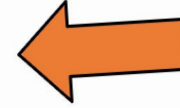
A plant bending towards a light source is an example of a response to a stimulus.

True

False

Drag and Drop

Drag the arrow to the
correct answer.



Is it living or nonliving?

living

nonliving

Drag the circle to the correct response.

**Important functions
occur in cells including
all except:**

- ☐ carrying out chemical reactions
- ☐ excreting wastes
- ☐ complex decision-making
- ☐ taking in nutrients



Type in the Text Box

Is it living or nonliving? If at least one of the characteristic does NOT apply, it is nonliving. Place an x in each box if the characteristic applies. Then type living or nonliving in the box provided.

	Bacteria	Goldfish	Sun	Rock	Venus Flytrap
Consists of a Cell or Cells					
Grows, Changes, and Develops					
Obtains and Processes Energy					
Responds to the Environment					
Maintains Homeostasis					
Reproduces					
LIVING OR NONLIVING					

Based on the lists in the previous slide, in the text box below, create your own list of the characteristics of living things.

Type here.

and more!

The Characteristics of Living Things - from different sources

Lumen Learning

1. is organized
2. responds to stimuli
3. reproduces
4. grows and develops
5. carries out functions
6. maintains homeostasis
7. processes energy

Britannica

1. has the ability to move
2. responds to conditions around them
3. releases energy
4. needs energy to survive
5. grows
6. reproduces
7. excretes waste

Khan Academy

1. highly organized and made of more cells
2. uses and consumes energy from chemical reactions
3. maintain homeostasis
4. grows
5. reproduces
6. responds to stimuli
7. evolve

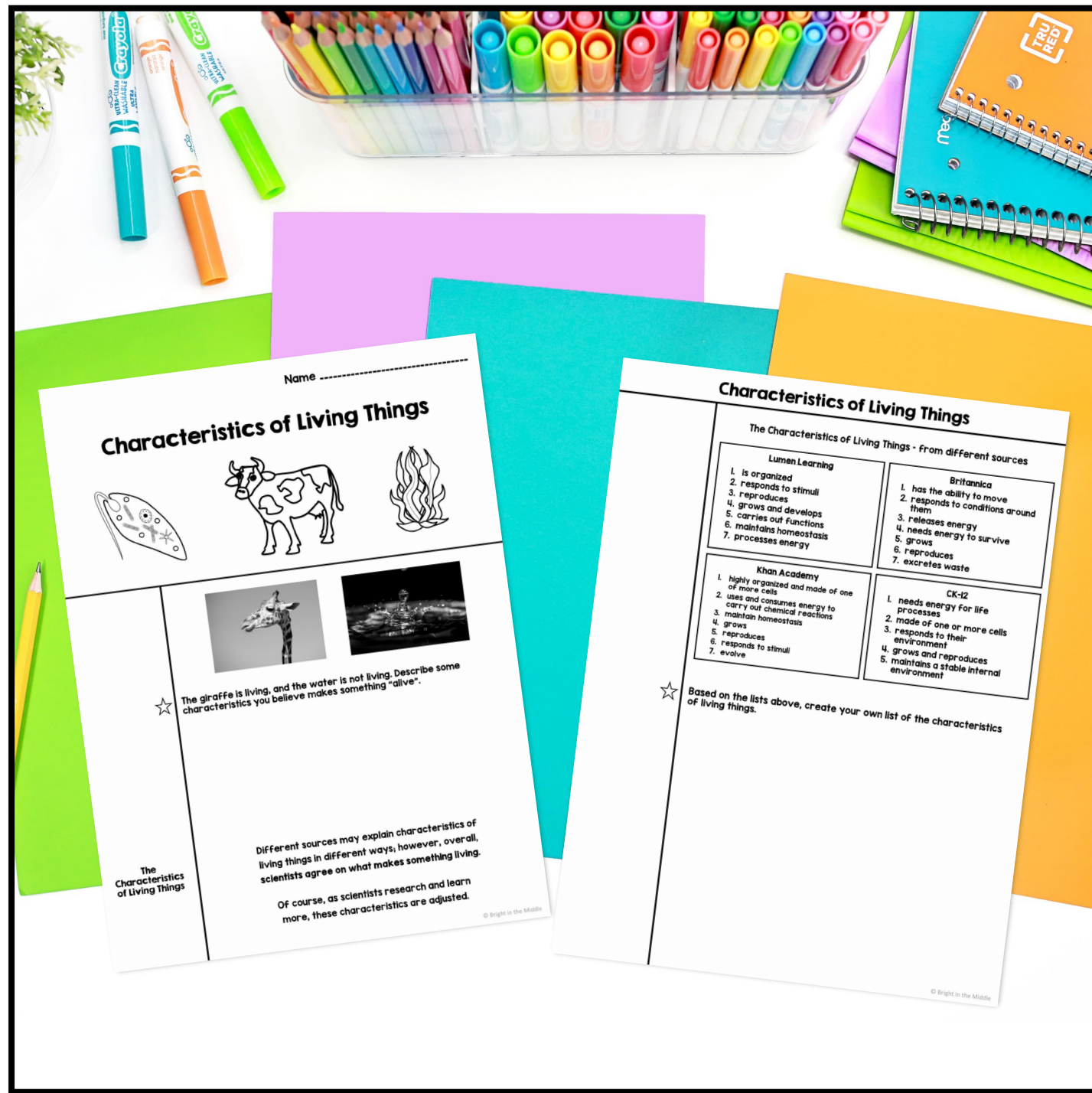
Click [here](#) to learn more about the cells of living things.

In the text box below, describe the most interesting thing you learned about cells as a characteristic of living things.

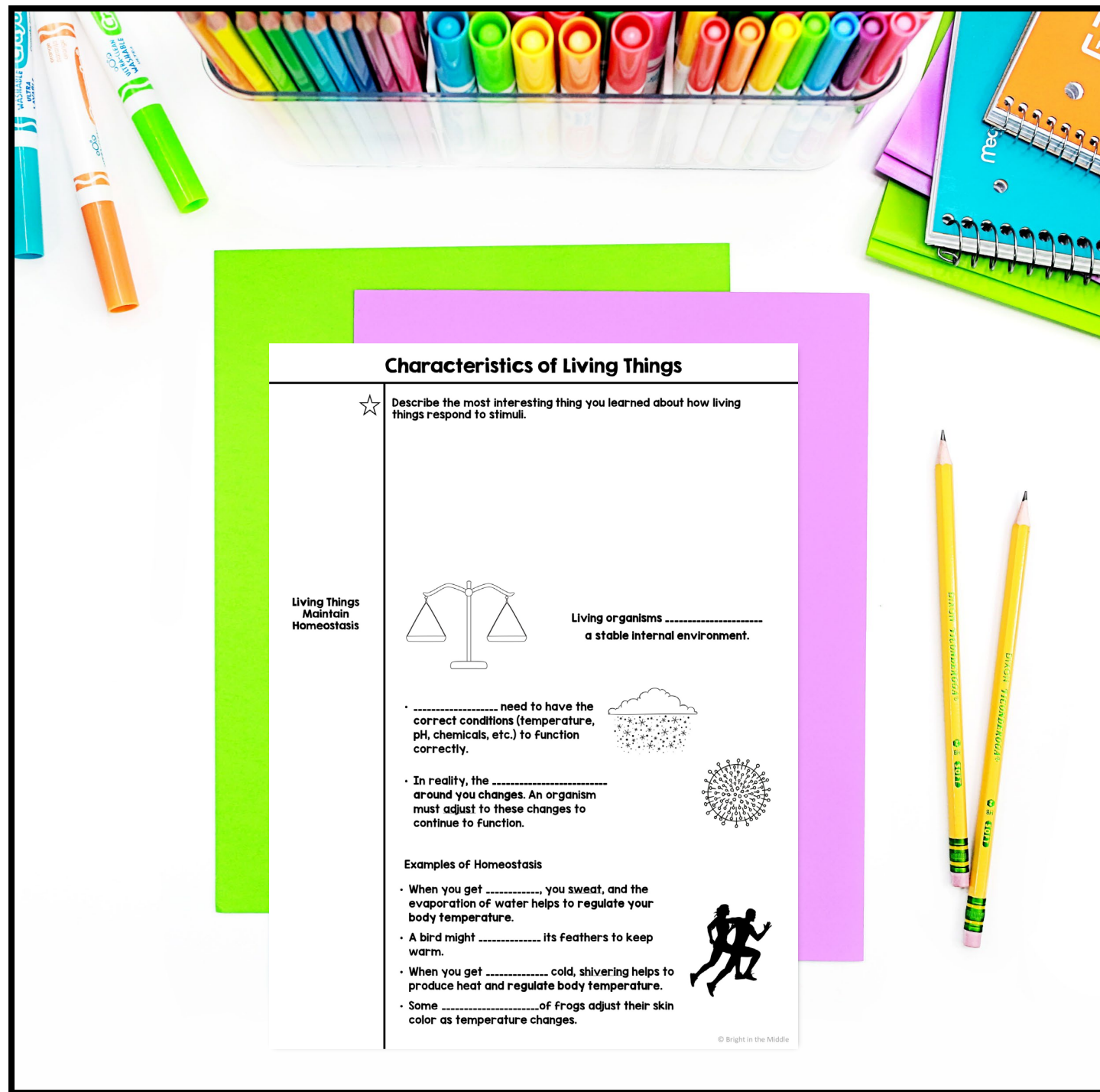
Type here.

Check out the images of these cells!

A paper version is also included with interactive activities embedded.



Guided Cornell notes are included as well!



Characteristics of Living Things



Describe the most interesting thing you learned about how living things respond to stimuli.

Living Things
Maintain
Homeostasis



Living organisms
a stable internal environment.

• need to have the
correct conditions (temperature,
pH, chemicals, etc.) to function
correctly.



• In reality, the
around you changes. An organism
must adjust to these changes to
continue to function.



Examples of Homeostasis

- When you get, you sweat, and the evaporation of water helps to regulate your body temperature.
- A bird might its feathers to keep warm.
- When you get cold, shivering helps to produce heat and regulate body temperature.
- Some of frogs adjust their skin color as temperature changes.



Ways to Use Digital Interactive Lessons

Science digital interactive lessons are a great way to teach or review science content with your students for many reasons.

They are fun. They are engaging. Another reason, which I think is the most important, is that they help decrease the cognitive load. The way that digital interactive lessons are set up is first, a little bit of content, and then practice with that content, and repeat the process.

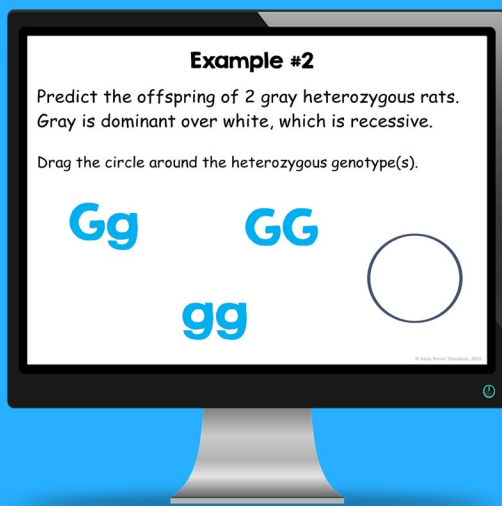
Students can digest small chunks of information a little at a time, apply that information, and then learn more! This will help keep their attention.

So, now, what are some ways that you can use them in your middle school science classroom?



Individual Learning

One way that interactive lessons can be used in the classroom is just for individual learning. These are digital lessons, so students can pull up the lesson on their computer, either via Google Classroom, Microsoft Teams, PowerPoint, or whatever you use in your classroom.



**Digital Science
INTERACTIVE
Lessons
for**

INDIVIDUAL LEARNING

Students read through the lessons themselves and **work through the practice** at their own pace.

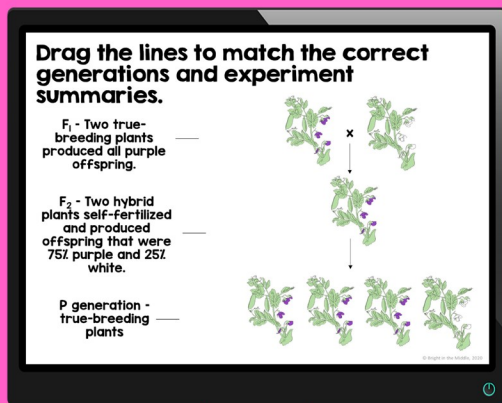
The benefits of doing this are that students can work at their own pace and you, as the teacher, can walk around the classroom as they are learning to answer any questions that they have. In addition, you can see what that particular student is learning. As you walk around the room and view their work, you can use it as a formative assessment to see if they are understanding the material.

You can also bump it up a notch. Since students will be working using the computer, you can embed related YouTube videos in the lesson for extra enrichment!



Distance Learning

Digital interactive science lessons are a great tool to use for individual learning at a distance for the middle school science classroom.



**Digital Science
INTERACTIVE
Lessons**
for

DISTANCE LEARNING

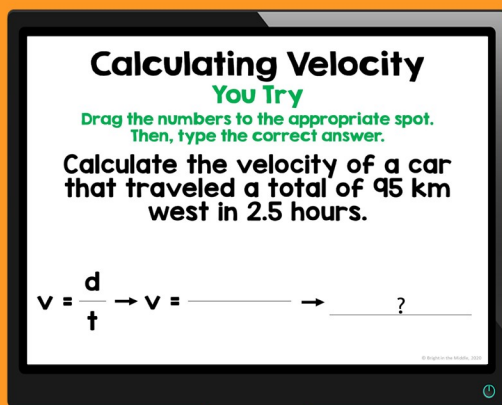
Students can read through the material, and after digesting chunks at a time, they can apply the information with embedded practice slides.

After completing the lessons, students can submit their work to their teacher.



Small Groups/ Partners

This works similarly to having students working as individuals except that students have the opportunity to work with one another. I think that this an awesome approach to differentiated learning in the classroom.



**Digital Science
INTERACTIVE
Lessons**
for

**SMALL GROUPS/
PARTNERS**

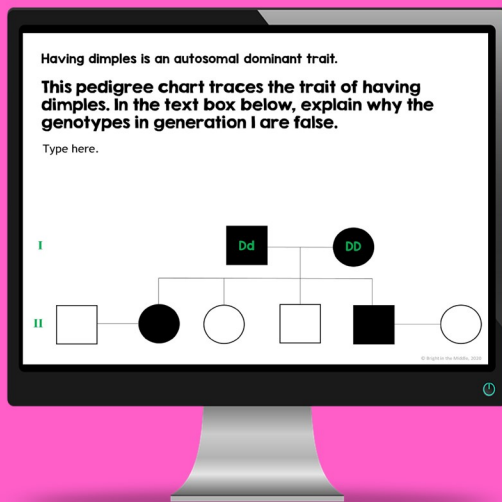
In small groups, or in partners, students are able to read the lesson together, discuss each practice slide, and apply the information together.

I prefer this method in many ways because I believe in the power of cooperative learning. As a teacher, you still have the opportunity to walk around and help the individual students as needed, but students also have each other for support.



Direct Instruction

As mentioned, digital interactive lessons are set up as a lesson with embedded practice to help decrease the cognitive load. If teachers choose to, they can pull up the lesson and teach it to their students and still take pieces of content and digest them bit by bit.



**Digital Science
INTERACTIVE
Lessons**
for

DIRECT INSTRUCTION

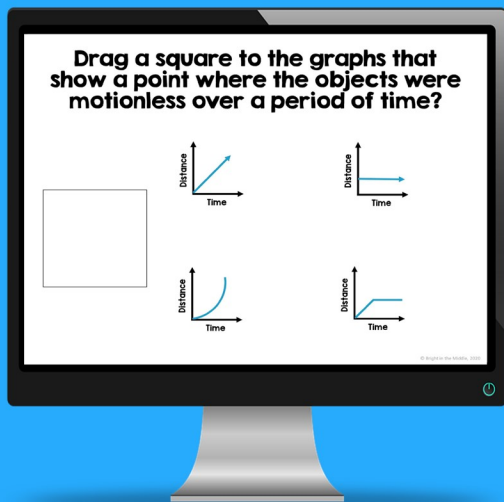
For example, when teaching about **pedigree charts**, the teacher can first discuss what a square and a circle represent in a pedigree chart.

After students digest this material, the teacher can ask students to discuss how they will remember this information and then apply the information in practice.



Science Centers

Digital interactive science lessons can be used in one of two ways for science centers. First, science centers on a particular topic. For example, say you are teaching distance-time graphs, and you are ready for students to complete science centers on this topic. You can have a center for a [digital interactive lesson](#) (make groups in Google Classroom, or another platform), [task cards](#), [story match](#), and a reading passage.



**Digital Science
INTERACTIVE
Lessons**
for

SCIENCE CENTERS

Another way that you can use interactive science lessons for science centers is only using digital interactive lessons. Time to review for a [genetics](#) test? You can have stations set up where students will move around the room.

They can work through individual lessons such as Gregor Mendel and an Introduction to Genetics, Asexual and Sexual Reproduction, Mitosis and the Cell Cycle, Meiosis, Punnett Squares, Pedigree Charts, and Variation of Traits and Genetics Disorders. This route may take more than one day. It just depends on how long your classes are and how much time you can devote to review. I personally like the first approach to using digital interactive lessons as a science center.



For ELL Students

With technology, there are so many awesome opportunities for students that do not speak English as their primary language to learn science content in schools that speak predominantly English. That goes vice versa as well. If you are trying to learn in any language you are unfamiliar with, technology is here to help!



**Digital Science
INTERACTIVE
Lessons**
for

ELL STUDENTS

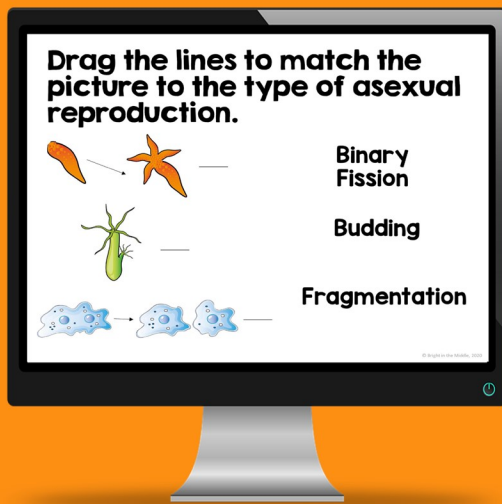
There are many options that students can use to learn science material. As a teacher that only speaks English, you can imagine how difficult it is to teach a student that speaks another language. I'm sure there are other teachers out there with the same dilemma.

With technology, I have been able to give my students the science lesson and have them use Google translate in order to understand what the lesson is saying. Now, I'm working on creating digital science lessons in Spanish, so that one step is taken out.



Enrichment/ Tutoring

I know that many schools set up a time during the day just for enrichment/tutoring.



**Digital Science
INTERACTIVE
Lessons**
for

**ENRICHMENT/
TUTORING**

Many schools only set up this time for reading/math, but some do science too! Especially those that test in science. Interactive lessons are a great way to review standards-based science material and practice!

