



Activities for Students

Note: The following activities are written in language appropriate for sharing with your students.

A Winning Combination

Objectives:

Students will:

- Learn how bones, muscles, and joints work together to move the body

Materials:

- Computer with Internet access
- Word processing program, or pen and paper

Class Time:

- 1 hour

Activity:

Think of a physical activity, exercise, or sport that you like. To find out how bones, muscles, and joints work together, we'll focus on one area: the knee. First, check out the interactive feature at KidsHealth.org/kid/interactive/muscles_it.html. Then write how your knee works when you do your activity or exercise, or play your sport. Make sure to include:

- The names of the bones that meet at the knee joint
- The jobs of all the parts of the knee (bones, cartilage, muscles, ligaments, and tendons)
- How these parts worked together

Extension:

Pick one important way to be safe and protect your bones, muscles, and joints when you're being active, exercising, or playing sports. Make a poster that illustrates your safety tip. Hang your posters in the school gym or near the playground.



Dr. Build-A-Bone's Laboratory

Objectives:

Students will:

- Learn about the materials that make up bone
- Label a cross section of bone

Materials:

- Computer with Internet access
- “Dr. Build-A-Bone’s Laboratory” handout

Class Time:

35 minutes

Activity:

Test tubes fizzing. Bunsen burners heating flasks full of mysterious chemicals. Electricity sizzling along wires. You’ve just entered the laboratory of the mad scientist, Dr. Build-A-Bone! Dr. Build-A-Bone has dedicated his life to discovering what mysterious substances are in bones, and to developing a process for growing new bone. For years scientists have been searching for his laboratory – now you are the lucky one who has found it! But you don’t have much time to look around, because the mad doctor will soon return. You grab some documents and make a quick getaway. Once home, though, you discover that Dr. Build-A-Bone’s papers are incomplete, and parts of the bones are not labeled (see the “Dr. Build-A-Bone’s Laboratory” handout). Use the articles at KidsHealth to help you fill in the blanks.

Reproducible Materials

Handout: Dr. Build-A-Bone's Laboratory

KidsHealth.org/classroom/3to5/body/systems/bones_handout1.pdf

Answer Key: Dr. Build-A-Bone's Laboratory

KidsHealth.org/classroom/3to5/body/systems/bones_handout2.pdf

Quiz: Bones, Muscles, and Joints

KidsHealth.org/classroom/3to5/body/systems/bones_quiz.pdf

Answer Key: Bones, Muscles, and Joints

KidsHealth.org/classroom/3to5/body/systems/bones_quiz_answers.pdf



Name: _____

Date: _____

Dr. Build-A-Bone's Laboratory

Instructions: Conduct some research on KidsHealth (check out http://kidshealth.org/kid/interactive/bones_it.html for the diagram), then label the parts of the bone, and complete the notes and other documents on the next page.

Diagram of Bone

Notes

Adult human beings have _____ bones in their bodies. We also have more than _____ muscles.

Experiments

Which substance is needed in the diet to keep bones strong?

- a) Sugar
- b) Calcium
- c) Bonium

Results

Is cartilage important for movement?

Yes
No

These are the names of the two bones I will try to create in the lab:



Answer Key: Dr. Build-A-Bone's Laboratory

Diagram of Bone

periosteum

compact (hard) bone

cancellous (spongy) bone

bone marrow

Notes

Adult human beings have 206 bones in their bodies. We also have more than 600 muscles.

Experiments

Which substance is needed in the diet to keep bones strong?

a) Sugar
b) Calcium
c) Bonium

Results

Is cartilage important for movement?

Yes
No

These are the names of the two bones I will try to create in the lab:

Any two individual bones, or group of bones, such as the skull



Name: _____

Date: _____

Quiz

Instructions: Answer each question.

1. True or false: The bones of your skeleton are alive. _____
2. What is the innermost part of the bone called?
 - a. periosteum
 - b. compact bone
 - c. cancellous bone
 - d. bone marrow
3. What are the 26 bones of the spine called? _____
4. Which bones protect your heart, lungs, and liver? _____
5. List three ways to take care of your bones:

6. The place where two bones meet is called a _____.
7. Name two types of moving joints:

8. Which of the following is NOT a type of muscle?
 - a. smooth muscle
 - b. rough muscle
 - c. cardiac muscle
 - d. skeletal muscle
9. Skeletal muscles are held to the bones with the help of _____.
10. Which of the following cushions and protects the bones where they meet?
 - a. ligaments
 - b. tendons
 - c. cartilage
 - d. muscle



Name: _____

Date: _____

Quiz Answer Key

1. True or false: The bones of your skeleton are alive. true
2. What is the innermost part of the bone called?
 - a. periosteum
 - b. compact bone
 - c. cancellous bone
 - d. bone marrow
3. What are the 26 bones of the spine called? vertebrae
4. Which bones protect your heart, lungs, and liver? ribs
5. List three ways to take care of your bones:
any of the following: wear a helmet; wear wrist supports and elbow and knee pads; wear all of the right equipment for sports like football, soccer, lacrosse, or ice hockey; don't play on trampolines; eat foods with calcium; be active
6. The place where two bones meet is called a joint.
7. Name two types of moving joints:
hinge joints
ball-and-socket joints
8. Which of the following is NOT a type of muscle?
 - a. smooth muscle
 - b. rough muscle
 - c. cardiac muscle
 - d. skeletal muscle
9. Skeletal muscles are held to the bones with the help of tendons.
10. Which of the following cushions and protects the bones where they meet?
 - a. ligaments
 - b. tendons
 - c. cartilage
 - d. muscle