

## LAB 7: The Plasma Membrane

**PURPOSE:** Learn how the plasma membrane controls cell contents through the dual processes of diffusion and osmosis.

### Goals for today:

- \* explain how you set up your experiments.
- \* explain the results of your experiments and observations.
- \* predict the movement of solutes based on size and concentration.
- \* predict the movement of water under different conditions of tonicity.

*For all exercises today, follow instructions precisely. Be sure to read all the text and answer all questions in the text.*

### p. 49-51 section 4.3 Diffusion

\_\_ read introduction to diffusion top of p. 49, then SKIP AHEAD to “Diffusion Across the Plasma Membrane” p. 50.

\_\_ set up plasma membrane experiment (p. 50)

- tubing has been cut for you
- use \_\_\_\_\_ of glucose
- use \_\_\_\_\_ of starch
- fill beaker to just cover cell: *do not overfill*
- use \_\_\_\_\_ iodine
- experiment must sit for at least 30 minutes
- Benedict’s tests require warming for 5 minutes in water bath

\_\_ Table 4.3, conclusions

### p. 52-55 section 4.4 Osmosis

\_\_ read introduction to osmosis at top of p. 52, then SKIP AHEAD to “Tonicity” p. 53

\_\_ set up potato strip experiment (must sit for 45 minutes to an hour)

\_\_ observe tonicity in red blood cells

\_\_ make wet mount of elodea cells

**Good review: p. 58 #s 8-13**