

Name _____ Block _____ Date _____

Spontaneous Generation Lab – Results and Conclusion

Possible Results

For each of the following possible results,

1. **describe** what you would conclude about spontaneous generation, and
2. **explain** why you concluded this (e.g. "...because...")

Possible Results	Conclusion
Open Flask: Bacteria/Mold Sealed Flask: Bacteria/Mold Swan-Neck Flask: Bacteria/Mold	
Open Flask: Bacteria/Mold Sealed Flask: No Growth Swan-Neck Flask: Bacteria/Mold	
Open Flask: Bacteria/Mold Sealed Flask: No Growth Swan-Neck Flask: No Growth	

Actual Results

Describe your observations. Include a **description** and brief **interpretation** of all three samples.

Open Flask
Sealed Flask
Swan-Neck Flask

Conclusion

Claim (Does life “spontaneously generate” from nonliving material?)	
Evidence (Summarize the data that support your claim. Include details.)	Reasoning (Explain why your evidence supports your claim. Hint: Explain why the swan neck flask is important. You may need to include information from notes or the background information for the lab.)

Analysis Questions – Use complete sentences. Continue answers on a blank sheet of paper if you need more room.

1. Why were all three samples boiled at the beginning of the experiment?
2. How is the theory of spontaneous generation different from the cell theory (hint: Where does each theory say new life come from)?
3. Based on these results, where does the mold on rotten food come from?
4. An important part of the nature of science is that “scientific ideas are durable yet subject to change as new data are collected.” How does the history of the theory of spontaneous generation show this part of science?