

Term 2  
Week 6

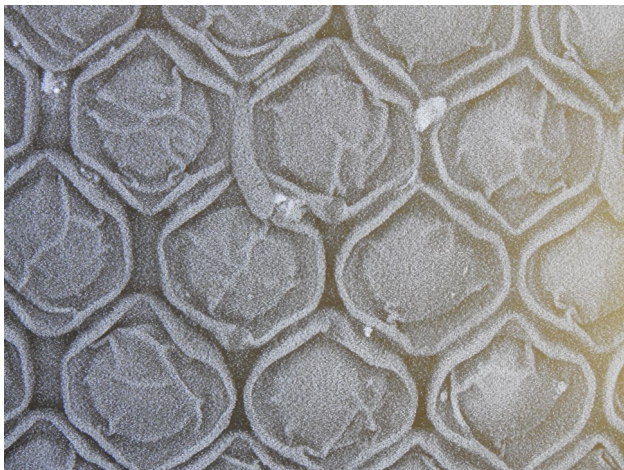
# Scanning Electron Microscope

STEM : Science  
Technology  
Engineering & Maths



Jess showing us a magnifying glass like the ones we use at kindergarten everyday to look closer at things.

We are scientists.



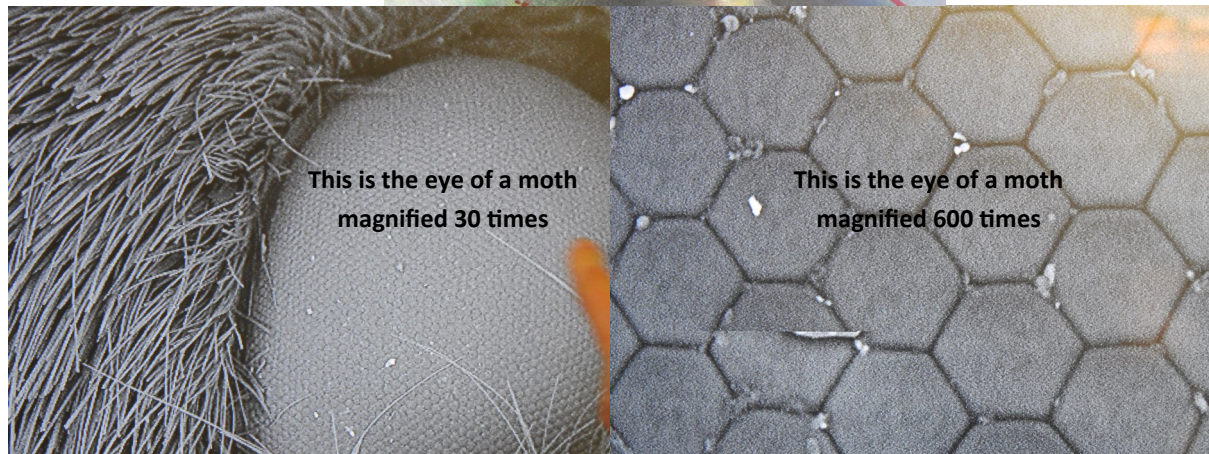
This is the eye of a mosquito magnified 600 times.

Jessica Jones, the Inspire Learning Co-ordinator for NewSpec Inc brought in a Scanning Electron Microscope for us to learn with. Jess used carbon tape to stick some dead mini beasts to a special silver disc. We had found the moth in our veggie patch. We helped Jess load the disc into the machine then pressed a button so the air was all vacuumed out of the machine. This is why we can only use dead things, because alive things need air. The microscope then scanned fast over the disc and we saw a fuzzy picture on the interactive white board screen. When it was on an image of interest to us Jess pressed slow scan and we were able to see a clearer picture. We zoomed in closer and closer with higher and higher magnification. The machine can achieve a 100,000 times magnification!! We looked at the minibeasts's eyes with 600 times magnification and saw that the insects' eyes are made up of shapes.

It was really fascinating.

These are the dead minibeasts stuck to the silver disc with carbon tape.

A mosquito, moth, bee and a millipede



This is the eye of a moth magnified 30 times

This is the eye of a moth magnified 600 times