

## What Does Each Bit of a Light Microscope Do?

1. Read the information below. Highlight the structures of the microscope in one colour and their functions in another.

When we use a microscope, it magnifies the image of an object that would be too small to see otherwise. The ocular is the lens that we put our eye up to and it magnifies the image. The objectives are the lower lenses which also magnify the image. The barrel directs light and the image to the eye and the nosepiece allows us to change objectives (if we want to change from 4 X to 10 X, for example). The stage holds the glass slide with the specimen on in place and the stage clips hold the slide in place. The diaphragm is the structure which alters the amount of light passing through the slide, by changing the size of the aperture (the hole that the light passes through). Some microscopes have a condenser which changes the quality of light by focusing the light onto the aperture. The base forms a solid platform for the microscope to stand on and the coarse focus knobs allow us to make large changes to the focus by moving the stage up and down. The fine focus knobs make tiny changes to the focus by adjusting it to suit our particular eye. The mirror is what we use to direct the light towards the specimen.

2. Use your highlighted notes above to fill in the table below:

<b>Structure</b>	<b>Function</b>
Ocular	
Objective	
Stage	
Diaphragm	
Barrel	
Coarse focus knob	
Fine focus knob	
Mirror	
Stage clip	