## SWIFT OPTICAL INSTRUMENTS, INC.

Microscopes • Digital Imaging Products

"Quality Microscopes for a Lifetime"



## **Ten Top Tips Towards Better Microscopy**

- 1. A compound microscope gives a two-dimensional, flat image. Use a compound microscope for specimens to be examined using a slide preparation method (micro). There are monocular, dual-view, binocular and trinocular compound microscopes.
- 2. A Stereo Microscope has a binocular body and gives a three dimensional image. Use a stereo microscope for specimens that have depth or are large in size and require a working distance (macro).
- 3. Start to focus using the lowest magnification. In a compound microscope, this is the 4X objective. Make sure the objective "clicks" into place. In a stereo microscope, start by using the 1X.
- 4. Always place the specimen to be viewed in the center of the stage or stage plate. When using a compound microscope make certain the slide is placed on the stage with the center over the light.
- 5. When viewing a slide, make sure that it is right-side-up. This is especially important when using a prepared slide. If upside down, it will not be in focus on high power (40X)!
- 6. Focus first by using the coarse adjustment knob, then, the fine focus knob. You should be able to change from one objective (magnification) to another with just a minor fine focus adjustment. This means the microscope is parfocal.
- 7. Adjust the illumination by using the intensity control and condenser or diaphragm.
- 8. Remember, when using higher magnifications, it is necessary to adjust the light source.
- 9. Teach your students the proper care and handling of the microscope. Always carry a microscope by using two hands; one hand around the arm of the microscope and the other under the base of the scope.
- 10. Keep your microscope clean. To clean the lenses, first remove any dust and dirt by using a camel hair brush or canned air. Moisten the end of a Q-tip with lens cleaning solution. Keep the other end dry. Clean the optical surface with the moist end of the Q-tip using a circular motion. Dry the surface with the dry end of the Q-tip using a circular motion. A solution of Windex with vinegar works well. Use a dust cover to store when not in use.

For more information, Please call (877) 967-9438 www.swiftoptical.com

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- 2. All-metal construction
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- 5. Warranty
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- 10. Standardized design to meet curriculum needs

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