A Look inside the Lab: Centrifuges

Lesson Questions

1. How does density factor into the way a centrifuge works?

2. Why might we need to separate cells from medium in a laboratory setting?

3. How do you balance a centrifuge? Why is this step important?

4. What substance is used to separate blood into its layers when using a centrifuge?

5. What is the most abundant protein in plasma? What does it do?



6.	What are the roles of white blood cells in the body? What do elevated levels of white blood cells tell us about the body?
7.	What is the role of platelets in the body? What can happen when someone has low platelet counts?
8.	What is the main function of red blood cells?
9.	Who invented the centrifuge? What was the instrument's original purpose?
10.	Who invented the ultracentrifuge? What is the instrument's application and how does it differ from the original?