



Key

- 1 - Eye - Red
- 2 - Head - Orange
- 3 - Body - Yellow
- 4 - Wing - Green
- 5 - Leg - Blue
- 6 - Glue - Purple
- 7 - Stand - Pink
- 8 - Antenna - Black

Drosophila melanogaster allow us to study many different things including development and genetics. These are the flies you find in your house if you leave bananas for too long. In this case we can study how a cell becomes a wing or eye cell during development by creating eyes in locations where eyes should not be. This is a drawing from an image taken on a Scanning Electron Microscope (SEM) that takes pictures with electrons! Here we can see the flies entire body and the eyes growing on the head (where they normally grow) and on the antenna, wing, and leg (where they don't normally grow). In order to take this picture, the fly is covered with two metals known as gold and palladium and then glued to a little stand so the electrons can bounce off the fly and make the picture!

Definitions

Drosophila melanogaster: a species of flies also known as a fruit fly

Developmental Biology: the study of how plants and animals grow and develop

Genetics: study of variation and heredity of traits

Electrons: a particle found in all atoms

Scanning Electron Microscope: a microscope where the surface of the specimen is scanned by electrons to generate an image