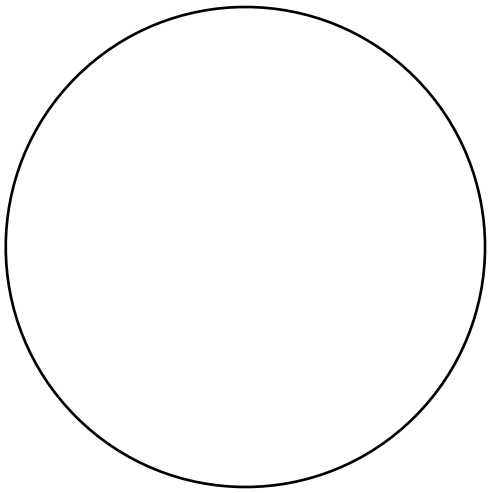
Cork Cells

Name:

Period:

Use the slide strip #58 and a plastic microscope for this. Use colored pencils to make a drawing in the circle of what you see. Then, answer the questions using what you observed and information from the paragraph below.

Circle #1 is a view of a thin slice of cork (tree bark). In the 17th century, Robert Hooke cut thin slices of cork and studied them with a recently-invented microscope. Hooke called the small, rectangular boxes he saw "cells." This name has since become one of the best-known scientific terms, although at the time Hooke had no idea of the importance of his discovery. The cells of this material are empty. All that is left of the original cells are their outside parts, called cell walls. There is nothing else there because cork is a dead and dried out part of the tree, so the spaces in-between the cell walls only contain air. The dark shadows you see which seem to be within the cells are actually the walls of other cells below.



1. How would you describe the shape of the cells you see? _____

   _____

2. Are the cells joined together [are they touching each other]? _____

3. Why are all of these cells empty? _____

   _____

   _____

4. What is the only remaining part of these cells that you can see? _____

5. Write the term **cell wall** outside of the circle □, and draw a line from the term to part of your drawing so it touches a cell wall in the drawing □.

Lab: 7 points