

Student Assessment

What's Smaller Than a Pygmy Shrew?

Part I: Definitions

Match each word with the correct definition,

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| 1. ___ atom | a. a small “building block” of all animals and plants |
| 2. ___ molecule | b. a particle inside an atom that whirls around nearly at the speed of light |
| 3. ___ cell | c. the part at the center of an atom |
| 4. ___ electron | d. tiny particles that make up protons and neutrons |
| 5. ___ neutron | e. a particle inside an atom that combines with protons to make up the nucleus of an atom |
| 6. ___ nucleus | f. a particle inside an atom that combines with neutrons to make up the nucleus of an atom |
| 7. ___ quarks | g. made of atoms bonded together and is not visible with an optical microscope |

Part II: Relative Size

Based on what you know, have read, and have discussed, put an “X” in each column that accurately describes each object. One of them has been done for you.

Object	Made of atoms	Smaller than an atom	Can be seen with the naked eye	So small it usually must be seen with a microscope	So small it cannot be seen with a microscope
atom					
bacteria					
cell					
protozoa					
elephant	X		X		
electron					
neutron					
nucleus					
proton					
pygmy shrew					
quark					