

Scenario: Learn about the physiology of a system

Situation

Kimberley is taking a class in animal physiology; the exam is next week. As part of her preparation for the exam, she wants to augment the information given in class lectures and the textbook. She can go to the library and look for books, or she can turn to the internet. Her classmates talked of a new website where one can visually experience the workings of systems. She decides to check out this new website.

Method to Address the Situation

Web → Find recommended website on animal physiology → Select the system of interest → Step through the interactive functionality for the system → Save URLs

Execution path

Step 1 Introduction to a new animal physiology website

Classmates talked about a new website on animal physiology that not only demonstrates system functionality at homeostasis, but also in changing or disease states.

Step 2 Visit the website

Kimberley goes to the URL her classmates gave her and peruses the home page. She likes the site and decides to explore further.

Step 3 Research the system she is currently studying about in class

From the home page, Kimberley selects the system she is studying. She is brought to the main page for the system.

The main page has an illustration of the system. Kimberley discovers that this illustration is the outermost view and that there is actually a set of illustrations, or slices, of the system. Parts of the system illustration are labeled with pertinent facts in the form of text and diagrams. Some labels have links to video. She steps through the slices, taking care to read the text, follow the diagrams and play the videos on each of the labels.

As Kimberley becomes more familiar with the functionality of the web page she realizes that she can also zoom in on the individual organs. She picks an organ and zooms in from the outermost layer of cells down to the next layer and the next. Here too, features of each layer are labeled with text, diagrams and video.

While trying out the zoom feature, Kimberley notices options on the illustrations to view the system in various changed or disease states. The professor did mention some diseases or changes that can take place related to the system she is learning, so she decides to investigate. She finds that as she increases and decreases the system variables, organs' appearances change. And as she zooms down into each organ, she notices that the appearance of the cells is altered as well.

Step 4 Save URLs

It's getting late and Kimberley must stop, but she is absolutely enthralled by the functionality of the website and bookmarks the pages so she can return to review and explore more.

REFERENCES

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