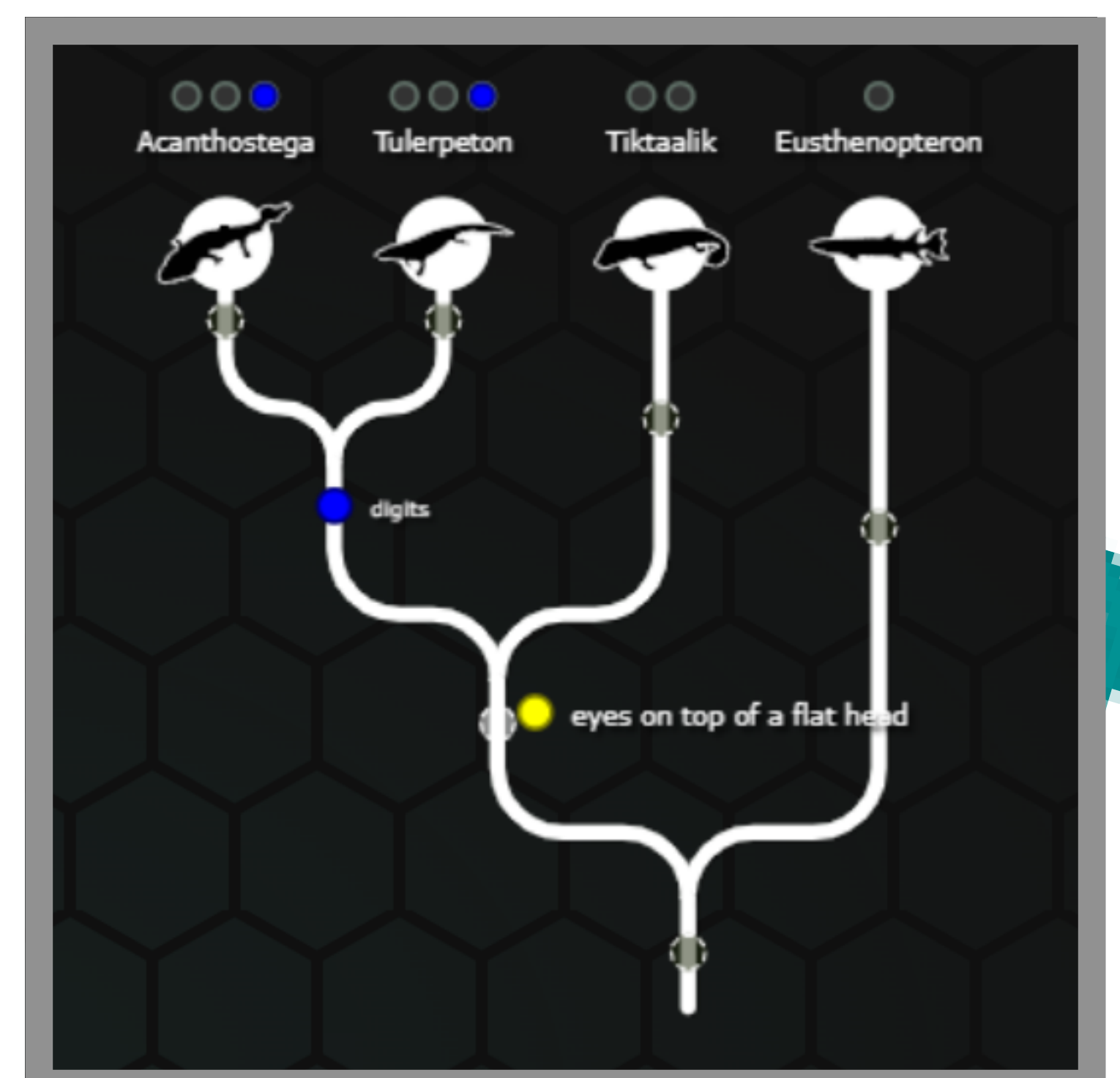


Biology CWM: Evolution & Molecular cell

In this module, I learnt about heredity, how mixing different colored flower species create intermediate colors, as well as how the recessive gene is carried down in the family tree. In addition, I got to play the simulation game by NOVA Labs (right) to explore about natural selection and how organisms can be classified under phylogenetic trees.



Apart from the extensive knowledge I obtained from the theory sessions, I also had lots of fun doing the practicals with my benchmates. In 5 of the coursework sessions, we engaged in the process of genetic engineering. From mere genes to fluorescent red protein, we worked hard with technology we never new existed and learnt more about lab techniques. Each session were exciting and memorable.

Eversince the first session, when I was introduced to the world of DNA, my passion for Biology blossomed. The first practical, extracting strawberry DNA left a deep impression and kept me eager to learn more about the fascinating world of Biology. I must give my thanks to my mentor, Ms Tien Lee who has been very supportive and conducted sessions in an engaging manner. In the short semester in Biology CWM, I have boardened my horizon and learnt much more about the applications of Biology than during lessons. If given the chance, I would continue to be part of this CWM!

He Zihan (Year 3)

BIOLOGY CWM:

EVOLUTION AND MOLECULAR CELL BIOLOGY

The Biology coursework module gave an exposure to much knowledge outside the classroom curriculum — from learning about the cell division (mitosis & meiosis), to using a micropipette, and at the last few sessions, carrying out genetic engineering. Although it has only been half a year in this module, the lessons helped to explain many concepts I've been curious about, for example, what causes autism? Why do I look more like my grandmother than my mother? What happens if humans only had 26 chromosomes instead of 46?

Thoughts of the module:

- Very fast paced, you learn one whole topic in around two lessons
- Not much homework, but you have to review whatever was taught in class that day to be able to keep up with Ms Lee's teaching speed
- Practical sessions are EXTREMELY fun and exciting, but you have to focus in theory lessons too. A firm grasp of content taught in theory sessions is needed, to understand why and how the experiment turns out the way it does.
- Exposes and gives a head start to sec 4 and JC biology content, e.g. structure of DNA, mitosis and meiosis, heredity, how to use a micropipette.



A big thank you to our mentor Ms Lee Tien and our lab technician Ms Sandy for planning the content and preparing all the lessons for us. This module was super interesting, fun and fruitful. If you enjoy learning biology, and would like to dive deeper into classical biology, CO-17 is the perfect module!