Getting acquainted with your organism – Assignment #2 (40 Marks)

Due at the end of lab the week of January 31st

As you will be working with this organism for the duration of the term it makes most sense to get to know your organism well. Thus far you have done some reading already and have likely learned a lot however there is nothing better than first-hand experience. This will help you in the design part of your experiment.

Based on your textbook and your previous knowledge from your primary papers research please answer the following questions.

1. Which phylum does this organism belong? (1 mark)
2. What are the key features that indicate it belongs to this phylum? (3 marks)
3. Describe the habitat these organisms typically reside in. For example, does it live in fresh or salt water? Is it free floating, bottom dwelling or attached to a substrate? (3 marks)
4. What does it eat? (1 mark)
5. What temperature does it do best in? (1 mark)
6. In the space below draw a diagram of your organism. In this drawing identifying at least 6 key features involved in feeding and locomotion combined. You will need to follow the proper format guidelines for creating a scientific drawing outlined at the end of this worksheet (18 marks – *See Scientific Drawing Rubric* for details on next page)

On the side bench you will find samples of your organism. As per the instructions of your TA please observe a few of your organism and answer the following questions. Remember we are not looking for answers from a textbook or online just what you see while observing.

1. How does it move? Describe its movements using the proper anatomical terminology. (2 marks)
2. How fast can it move? You will need to think of how best to measure this. Check with your TA if in doubt. (2 marks)
3. How does it respond to varying types of stimuli? Touch, light, heat, cold etc. (3 marks)
4. How does it eat? Describe its eating using the proper anatomical terminology. (2 marks)
5. What is the best way to count them to ensure the utmost accuracy? (2 marks)
6. How can you be sure your organism is alive? (2 marks)