**The Characteristics of Life**

**Laboratory Rubric**

**Objective:** To describe the characteristics of life based upon scientific evidence gathered during authentic laboratory experiences.

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| Laboratory Component | 3  Exceeds Expectations | 2  Meets Expectations | 0  Below Expectations | Comments |
| **Communication**  - grammar  - spelling  - structure/style |  |  |  |  |
| **Introductory Paragraph (x3)**  - describes objective of experiments  - describes objective of letter  - explains the importance of all of the characteristics of life  - explains each characteristic of life |  |  |  |  |
| **Experimental Design (x4)**  - designs and implements at least 3 controlled experiments.  - experiments test for at least 3 different characteristics of life. |  |  |  |  |
| **Argues from Evidence (x4)**  - clearly describes data collected  - refers directly to specific data to support/reject hypothesis.  - clearly describes the connection between the data collected and the hypothesis |  |  |  |  |
| **Concluding Paragraph (x3)**  - summarizes the findings of the experiments  - presents a concise statement of the role the experiments had on determining which samples were alive  - offers suggestions for future research  - identifies sources of error in experimentation |  |  |  |  |