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WORKSHEET 14

School: Ba Sangam College

Subject: Biology

Year: 12

Name: _____

Strand	1 – Structure and Life Processes
Sub strand	1.4 – Comparative Form and Function in Plants and Animals
Content Learning Outcome	-Examine the products of different excretory systems and discuss the system of excretion and osmoregulation and associated problems in selected organisms.

Excretion and Osmoregulation in Invertebrate Animals

I. Aquatic Invertebrates: Cnidarians and Mollusc (Bivalves)

Excretion and Osmoregulation

- Sessile aquatic animals in which ammonia diffuses out into the surrounding water.
- These organisms are small and create metabolic wastes slowly. Therefore, they do not need a special excretory system.

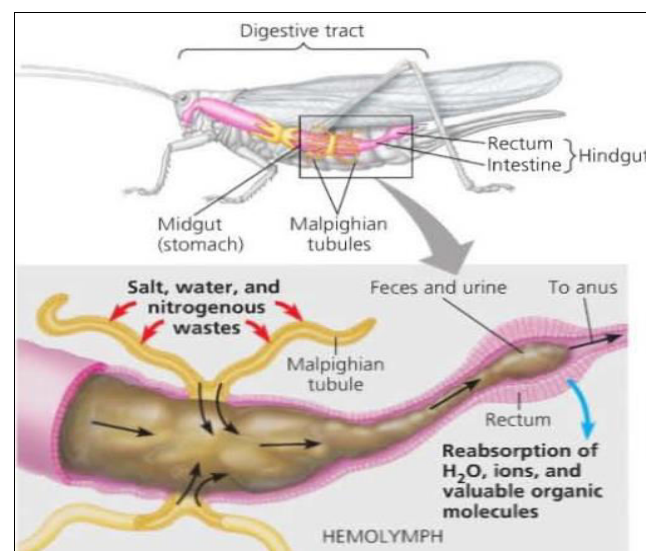
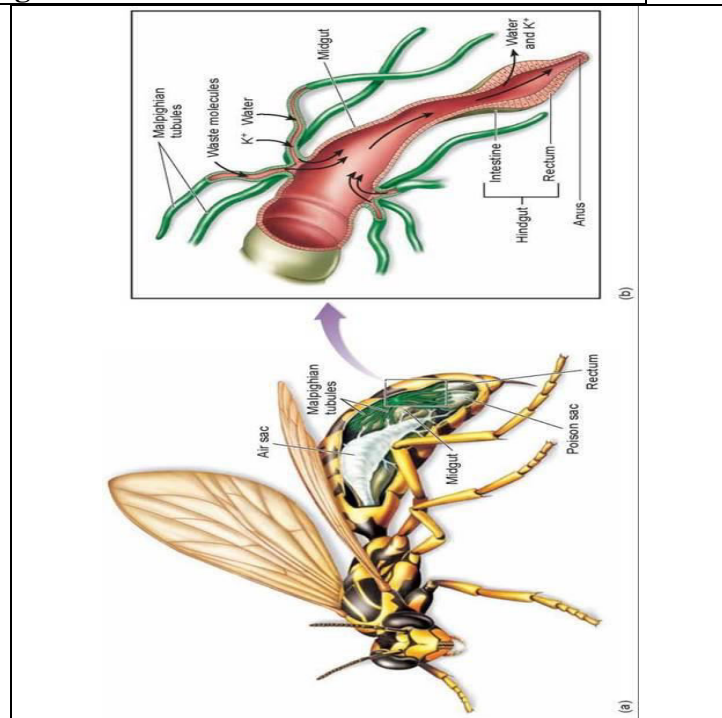
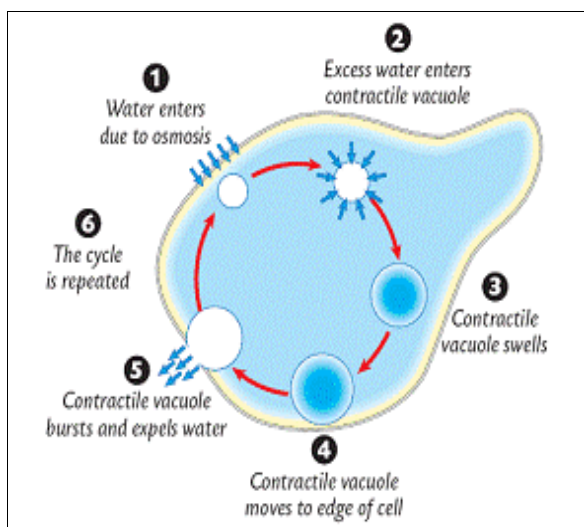
Water Conservation

- They live in water; therefore, do not worry about dehydration.

II. Terrestrial Invertebrates: Insects

Excretory organ of the insects is known as **Malpighian Tubules**. These are tube extensions of the gut which float in the open blood cavity (haemocoel).

- Excretory products of insects are **uric acid**. The Malpighian tubules absorb nitrogenous wastes from the blood and convert it to **uric acid**.
- The tubules join with the hind gut and uric acid crystals pass out with the faeces.



Water Conservation

- Insects are terrestrial animals - threat of dehydration. Their water conserving adaptations include:
- Excretion of solid uric acid crystals instead of urea which needs to be diluted in water.
- Waxy exoskeletons reduce water

evaporation from body surfaces.

- Moist respiratory surfaces of the trachea – inside their bodies- reduce evaporation.
- Closing of spiracles when they are inactive.
- The hind gut reabsorbs water from the faeces.

Excretion and Osmoregulation in Vertebrate Animals

Excretory Organ:

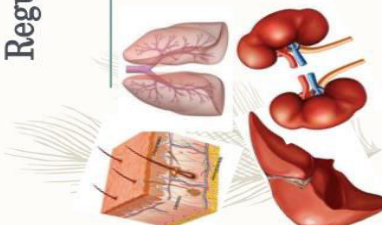
- (1) **Liver**- which deaminates excess amino acids; and
 - (2) **Pair of kidneys**- which filter the resulting nitrogenous wastes out of the blood.
- Hormones, the brain tells the kidneys how much water and salts the body needs to retain to maintain homeostasis.

I. Aquatic Vertebrates:

Regulation of Extracellular Fluids

Excretory systems regulate the chemical composition of body fluids by removing metabolic wastes and retaining the proper amounts of water, salts, and nutrients. Components of this system in vertebrates include the kidneys, liver, lungs, and skin.

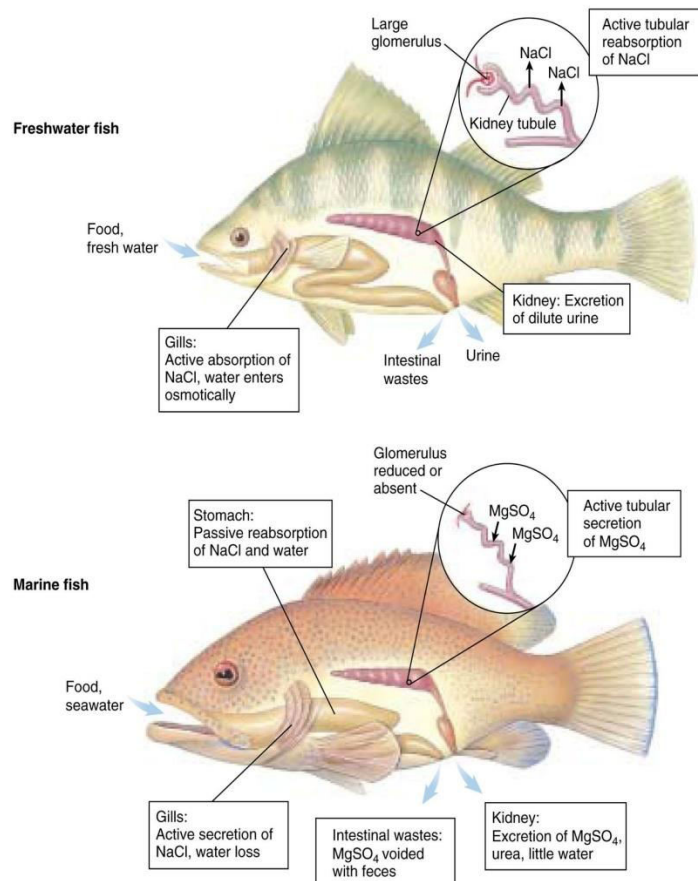
Not all animals use the same routes or excrete their wastes the same way humans do. Excretion applies to metabolic waste products that cross a plasma membrane. Elimination is the removal of feces.



Fish

Excretion and Osmoregulation

- Both fresh and saltwater fish excrete ammonia directly into water therefore no energy is spent on converting it to urea.
- Fish face osmotic problems. Water constantly moves into freshwater fish's cells and move out of a saltwater fish's cells.



Exercises

1. Identify four ways in which insects reduce water loss? **(4 marks)**

2. Briefly explain how human excretory system (liver and a pair of kidneys) conduct excretion and maintain osmoregulation. **(2 marks)**

3. Identify the advantages and disadvantages of excreting the following products: **(6 marks)**

Waste	Advantages	Disadvantages
Ammonia		
Uric acid		
Urea		

