Fluid Mosaic Plasma Membrane Lab

- 1. Label the phosphate head and the lipid tails.
- Identify and label the part that is hydrophilic (likes water) and the part that is hydrophobic (fears water)



- 3. Create 30 phospholipids by breaking toothpicks in half and placing both halves into the marshmallows,
- 4. Create a bi-layer of phospholipids by placing 15 phospholipids on top and 15 phospholipids underneath, with the lipid tails in the center and the phosphate heads on the outside.
- 5. Some phospholipids, called glycolipids, have carbohydrates attached to their phosphate heads. These serve as identification markers, helping identify the cell to the body's immune system. Create a glycolipid by placing half a toothpick through a gummy sweet tart and attaching it to one phosphate head.
- 6. Interspersed throughout a plasma membrane are protein that carry out various functions.
- 7. Place one orange slice, vertically, in the middle of your phospholipids. This represents a channel protein through which material can move into and out of the cell without energy.
- 8. Place one cherry slice horizontally in the phospholipids. Push a red hot candy into the top of the fruit slice. This represents a protein pump that requires energy to transport material through the membrane.
- 9. Place a different candy fruit slice horizontally in the phospholipids. Place a toothpick through a gummy sweet tart and attach it to this candy slice. This represents a glycoprotein that serves as a identification marker to the body's immune system.
- 10. Place a toothpick through another gummy sweet tart and attach it to a phosphate head. This represents a glycolipid that also helps identify the cell.

- 10. Besides proteins, cholesterol is also dispersed through the plasma membrane. Cholesterol helps prevent the membrane from solidifying as temperatures decrease. Place jelly beans between the phospholipid tails to represent cholesterol.
- 11. Use your fluid mosaic model the help identify the various parts in the diagram below:



Match the terms to their structure on the membrane

- Bi-layer of phospholipids Phospholipid
- Phosphate Head
- _____ Lipid tails
- _____ Glycolipid (identification marker)
- _____ Channel Protein (Transport)
- _____ Glycoprotein (Identification marker)
- _____ Cholesterol (Keeps the lipids from solidifying)
 - _____ Carrier Protein (Transport)