General Biology Exercise 1a © 1999-2015 James Bier

Prepare an answer to the following question before the next class. Be able to discuss this question both in a small group and with the entire class.

Think about things that are alive: a dog, a tree, grass, a fungus, pond scum, you. Think about things that are not alive: a rock, the air, water, concrete, crystals. List as many differences as you can between the two groups. Then determine which characteristics are used to determine if something is alive or not.