

ANIMAL DISSECTION VS. NON-ANIMAL ALTERNATIVES A COST COMPARISON

Non-animal methods of teaching anatomy and physiology have many benefits, including cost savings. As the chart below outlines, alternatives consistently cost less than animal dissections, in part, because they are less wasteful, more versatile, and last longer once the initial purchase has been made.

Cost Comparison of using Animals vs. Non-Animal Methods (Three Year Period) High Cost Low Cost 20,000 10,000

Animal Dissection



Non-Animal Methods

This analysis is based on three A/P & Biology classes composed of 30 students each or 90 students total. If using animal specimens, we assume that a pair of students will dissect; so 45 specimens of each animal needed annually, or 135 (45x3) over a 3-year period.

The low and high prices of the preserved animals were obtained from the Carolina Biological Supply Company's website (2023). The alternative prices were obtained from a variety of sources including Carolina Biological Supply Company's website (2023); Victory XR site licenses for VR Frog dissection, eMind Software licenses (Fetal Pig & Shark), Biosphera multi-use license (Cat), Origami Organelles paper model (Frog), Getting Nerdy with Mel and Gerdy Scienstructable 3D models (Cat, Fetal Pig, & Shark), and Rainbowresource.com for 4D Vision models (Fetal Pig, Shark, & Frog).