Name: ________________________

Ear Swab for Ear Mites / Infections

Purpose:
An ear swab examination is a test used to determine the cause of abnormal ear discharge. Bacteria and/or yeast organisms or mites are common findings with ear infections. The result of the examination can help determine the course of action. An ear swab examination is indicated anytime there is ear discharge, signs of inflammation or itchiness of the ears.

Objectives:
1. Perform ear swab
2. Examine ear swab slide

Materials:
- Various animals
- Cotton tipped applicator
- Slide and slide cover
- Mineral Oil

Procedure:
1. Place cotton tip applicator within the ear canal.
2. With a gentle movement, some discharge or debris is captured on the swab.
3. Transfer to a microscope slide by gently rolling the swab in a drop of mineral oil.
4. Cover area with coverslip.
5. Examine under a lower power microscope.

Draw what you see under the microscope.