

Name _____

Vestigial Structure Survey

Take a survey of your class to find out how many students have a particular vestigial structure.

How Many People...	Yes	No
have had their appendix removed?		
have had their wisdom teeth removed?		
gets sinus infections?		
can wiggle their ears?		
have Darwin's point on their ear?		
get goosebumps when they are cold or scared?		
have had their tonsils removed?		
wish they could use their Plica Semilunaris		

1. What percentage of people surveyed have Darwin's Point?
2. Ten percent of the population has Darwin's Point, compare the class population to the general population. How do the percentages compare?
3. Provide a reason why the percentages for Darwin's point is different.
4. Why do you think some people can wiggle their ears while others cannot?
5. Some speculate that the appendix was used for a storage of good bacteria. Provide a reason why would our ancestors need an appendix
6. Provide a reason why people would not need their appendix anymore.
7. The small toe is considered a vestigial structure. Provide a reason why it was once useful.
8. Why would the small toe be considered vestigial and now useless?