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Bio 2311-OL26 Lab

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Definitions: The Skull

Vomer: Unpaired ethmoid bone in the nasal cavity that is a part of the nasal septum.

Sphenoid: The bone behind the eye that forms the base of the cranium that is a bat-like shape and helps form the orbit.

Styloid process: Needle-like projection that attaches the ligaments to the neck muscles.

Mandibular fossa: Smooth surface formed by the squamous and petrous parts of the temporal bone that is inferior to the zygomatic process; connects to the mandible to form the temporomandibular joint.

Condylod fossa: Posterior to the occipital condyle and lateral to the condyle.

Lambdoid suture: Suture on the back of the skull that consists of dense fibrous connective tissue that connects the occipital bones to both parietal bones.

Palatine bone: Irregular bone posterior to the maxilla that forms the eye sockets, nasal cavity, and the anterior hard palate.

Stylomastoid foramen: Tiny and round opening in the middle of mastoid and styloid processes that allow cranial nerve VII to exit the cranium.

Occipital condyle: a rounded projection that connects the skull to the vertebral column.

There are two and they are lateral to the foramen magnum.

Foramen magnum: Large opening in the base of the cranial bone that connects the spinal cord to the stem of the brain.