

# Under the Microscope #14 - Fruit fly brain and gut

March 7 2012

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PhD student Paola Cognigni shows us this beautiful image of a fruit fly's brain and gut.

Paola Cognigni: “This video shows the anatomical and functional connection between the brain and the [gut](#) in the fruit fly, *Drosophila melanogaster*. This work is carried out in Dr. Irene Miguel-Aliaga’s lab in the Department of Zoology as part of a research project that aims to find and explain the interactions between internal organs and their importance in growth and health.”

The [brain](#) is about 700 microns wide: about the size of a pencil tip.

The image was taken on the Zoology Dept Imaging Facility on a Leica SP5 confocal system.

Under the Microscope is a collection of videos that show glimpses of the natural and man-made world in stunning close-up. They are released every Monday and Thursday and you can see them here: [bit.ly/A6bwCE](http://bit.ly/A6bwCE)

**More information:** More info and images: [zoo.cam.ac.uk/zoostaff/miguel-aliaga/main.html](http://zoo.cam.ac.uk/zoostaff/miguel-aliaga/main.html)

Provided by University of Cambridge

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