

fascia between muscles with a dissecting needle or a scalpel. Caution: Do not cut the muscle fibers, only the connective tissue between them.

When the study of superficial muscles has been completed, *transect* the muscles. This is done by cutting them at right angles to the directions of the fibers at the belly area and folding them back, or *reflecting* them, to their origins and insertions. This will reveal the deeper muscle layers.

We shall begin by examining the superficial muscles first on the ventral, then the lateral and finally the dorsal surface. Some deep muscles will also be studied. A Self-Quiz for students will be found at the end of the unit on the Muscular System.