Welcome to AP BIOLOGY!!!!



NOTES: Chapter 1

Exploring Life





Exploring LIFE:

 The phenomenon we call life defies a simple, onesentence definition



 We recognize life by what living things DO

Some Properties of LIFE:

- <u>order</u>
- evolutionary adaptation
- <u>response to the</u> <u>environment</u>
- regulation (homeostasis)
- energy processing
- growth and development
- reproduction

Figure 1.2

Concept 1.1: a set of THEMES/ big ideas pervade all of biology – make connections across different areas of biology!

• <u>THEME</u>: new properties emerge at each level in the **biological hierarchy**

From the **biosphere** to **organisms**:

Figure 1.3

From <u>cells</u> to <u>molecules</u>:

Life is organized (ORDER) on many structural levels (small to large):

- <u>Atoms</u>
- Biological Molecules
- Organelles
- <u>Cells</u>
- <u>Tissues</u>
- Organs
- Organ Systems
- Organism

Levels beyond the individual organism:

- Population
- <u>Community</u>
- Ecosystem

- <u>Biomes</u>
- **Biosphere**

• **THEME**: organisms **INTERACT** with other organisms and the physical environment

-ex: cycling of chemical nutrients within an ecosystem

• **THEME**: life requires **energy transfer** and transformation

-all organisms must perform work, which requires energy

flow of energy through an ecosystem (sunlight
→ plants → animals...)

Energy processing

(a) Energy flow from sunlight to producers to consumers

When energy is used to do work, some energy is converted to thermal energy, which is lost as heat.

An animal's muscle cells convert chemical energy from food to kinetic energy, the energy of motion.

A plant's cells use chemical energy to do work such as growing new leaves.

(b) Using energy to do work

THEME: STRUCTURE AND FUNCTION are correlated at all levels of biological organization.

"Form fits function!"

(b) Wing bones

- Biological systems are much more than the sum of their parts
 - A system is a combination of components that form a more complex organization
 Outer membrane

THEME: the cell is an organism's basic unit of structure and function

 The cell is the lowest level of organization that can perform all activities required for life

Figure 1.5

The Cell's Heritable Information:

 Cells contain chromosomes made partly of DNA, the substance of genes which program the cells' production of proteins and transmit information from parents to offspring

THEME: the continuity of life is based on heritable information in the form of DNA

• The molecular structure of DNA accounts for it information-rich nature

THEME: Feedback Mechanisms Regulate Biological Systems

- A kind of supply-and-demand economy applies to some of the dynamics of biological systems
- In feedback regulation the output, or product, of a process regulates that very process

Regulation

In negative feedback:

 An accumulation of an end product <u>slows the</u> process that produces that product

In positive feedback:

• The end product speeds up production

THEME: Evolution is the overarching theme of biology!

Evolutionary adaptation

Concept 1.2: Evolution accounts for life's unity and diversity

- The history of life is a saga of a changing Earth billions of years old
- The evolutionary view of life came into sharp focus in 1859 when Charles Darwin published <u>On the Origin of</u> <u>Species by Natural Selection</u>

EVOLUTION:

- The Origin of Species articulated two main points
 - -<u>Descent with</u> modification
 - -Natural selection

varied inherited traits

1 Population with

Elimination of individuals with certain traits Reproduction of survivors Increasing frequency of traits that enhance survival and reproductive success

 The products of natural selection are often exquisite adaptations of organisms to the special circumstances of their way of life and their environment

"In Biology nothing makes sense except in the light of evolution."

-Theodosius Dobzhansky (1900-1975)

Diversity and unity are the dual faces of life on earth:

- TAXONOMY = branch of biology concerned with <u>naming and classifying organisms</u>.
 - This helps categorize the diversity to make it manageable.
- Unity of life is evident in:
 - <u>A universal genetic code;</u>
 - Similar metabolic pathways;
 - Similarities in <u>cell structure</u>.

► Classifying Life: Biologists explore life across its great diversity of species

• Diversity is a hallmark of life

Classifying life:

Life's 3 Domains:

Unity in the Diversity of Life:

 As diverse as life is there is also evidence of remarkable unity

> Cilia of Paramecium. The cilia of Paramecium propel the cell through pond water. $5 \mu m$ Cross section of cilium, as viewed with an electron microscope

Cilia of windpipe cells. The cells that line the human windpipe / are equipped with cilia that help keep the lungs clean by moving a film of debris-trapping mucus upward.

Concept 1.3: Biologists use various forms of inquiry to explore life

- At the heart of science is **inquiry**
 - A search for information and explanation, often focusing on specific questions
- Biology blends two main processes of scientific inquiry
 - <u>Discovery science</u>
 - Hypothesis-based science

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Discovery Science:

 Describes natural structures and processes as accurately as possible through careful observation and analysis of data

"A discovery is like falling in love and reaching the top of a mountain after a hard climb all in one, an ecstasy induced not by drugs but by the revelation of a face of nature that no one has seen before."

-Max Perutz (Pulitzer Prize: Biochemistry)

Types of DATA:

Data

-<u>Are recorded</u> observations

-Can be <u>quantitative</u> or <u>qualitative</u>

Hypothesis-Based Science (INQUIRY):

- In science, inquiry that asks specific questions usually involves the proposing and testing of hypothetical explanations, or <u>hypotheses</u>
- In science, a hypothesis
 - Is a tentative answer to a well-framed question, an explanation on trial
 - Makes predictions that can be tested

Hypotheses in Scientific Inquiry:

- A scientific hypothesis must have two important qualities:
 - -It must be testable
 - -It must be falsifiable

A Case Study in Scientific Inquiry: Investigating Mimicry in Snake Populations

 In one type of mimicry a harmless species resembles a harmful species

- In this case study
 - Mimicry in king snakes is examined
 - The hypothesis predicts that predators in non-coral snake areas will attack king snakes more frequently than will predators that live where coral snakes are present

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Eastern coral snake (venomous)

Scarlet kingsnake (nonvenomous)

Scarlet kingsnake (nonvenomous)

 To test this mimicry hypothesis researchers made hundreds of artificial snakes, an experimental group resembling king snakes and a control group of plain

brown snakes

(a) Artificial kingsnake

(b) Brown artificial snake that has been attacked

 After a given period of time the researchers collected data that fit a key prediction RESULTS

Limitations of Science

 Science cannot address supernatural phenomena

-Because hypotheses must be testable and falsifiable and experimental results must be repeatable

Theories in Science:

- A scientific theory
 - -Is broad in scope
 - -Generates new hypotheses
 - -Is supported by a large body of evidence

Concept 1.4: Science benefits from a cooperative approach and diverse viewpoints

- Science is a social activity!
 - Scientists work together & share their results with the scientific community
- Building on the work of others
 - Results must be repeatable
 - Biologists approach questions at different levels
 - <u>Cooperation & communication are key!</u>

Welcome to <u>AP BIOLOGY</u>!