

## Chapter 1 : An On-Line Biology Book

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Click here to see our 1 pick Biology can trace its beginnings all the way back to the 5th century B. Biology can trace its beginnings all the way back to the 5th century B. He is the first known scientist to practice dissection in his studies. Biological sciences today has drawn from numerous traditions and practices dating back to antiquity, such as the practice of medicine, which started with ancient Greeks like Hippocrates, and the tradition of natural history, which dates back to Aristotle. Botany is one of the earlier biological studies to experience popular interest and research as it was closely linked with medical practices. Along with medicine, botany was vital in the study of natural history and is considered one of the earliest points of common focus between the two areas. In the Middle Ages and the Renaissance era, it was often commonplace to see gardens maintained at centers of medical instruction with the professors not only caring for the gardens, but being experts of botany as well. In , Andreas Vesalius researched anatomy by performing detailed dissections on human cadavers, which was unusual at the time as most anatomists were only dissecting animals. By the s many of these different areas of study were overlapping and the concept of biology as a single coherent field of study began to emerge. Thus, when combined it can mean the study of life or the science of life. There is some debate as to the first use of the word biology. Instead the best strategy is to follow a preview, read, review format for each chapter. Try and answer them as best you can before you start reading the chapter. The preview step is designed to give you a broad overview of what you will be reading about, and the major topics or concepts you will be learning. To preview a textbook effectively, you will want to start at the very end of the chapter with the quiz questions. This will give you a breakdown of exactly what you should hope to learn in your readings and also make those key points stand out in your mind later when you are going through the chapter. Finally go back and browse all of the headings and subdivisions of the chapter. Now you can move on to reading the chapter. This should be active reading , unlike reading a story book, which is passive reading. In active reading you will take notes, ask questions, and highlight key points. The trick to doing this is not to stop and take notes or highlight as you read, but rather to do it at the end of each page or after a couple of paragraphs. Stopping to do it as you read will breakup your flow. You may also highlight the wrong key point as you highlight something that seems important and then a few sentences later you read something that is even more vital. If you highlight everything that seems important as you go, you will probably wind up with too much highlighted material making browsing your notes harder. Writing questions about key concepts along the margins or on post-its after you read each page is a great way to set yourself up for later testing. Once you finish the chapter or a large section of it, you can go back and take a look at the questions. If you can answer them without having to reference the text, then you know you have comprehended your readings. The final review step is just to ensure you have understood everything. Start by writing your own summary of the information in the chapter. This ensures you can expound on what you have learned and recall it for later use.

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