

Biology Updates

Peace Wapiti School Division

October 16, 2012

Issue #1

**BIOLOGY
TEACHERS**
The Cool Kids Of The
Education World

Welcome to the Biology Cohort:

This newsletter will be a monthly product and will provide the biology teachers with some new websites, current videos, clips or articles, and new projects, lessons or assignments which will increase our student's engagement. If you have any feedback or information you would like to add to this newsletter please forward that information to my email at alisonlario@pwsd76.ab.ca

Amazing Lessons/ Projects/Assignments

D-N-A-lie – Students are given 'Alien' DNA and are to determine the amino acid chain. There is an article to go with the assignment in which students are to interpret information and draw conclusions. – Great closing assignment to the chapter. (Bio 30)

Design a Species – Create an imaginary species. (Bio 30)

Taxonomy Project – Humans have destroyed the Earth. Students are to create a naming system of the remaining mutated creatures – Great project for Chapter 3. (Bio 20)

Robbie the RBC - Create a cartoon (like Archie comics) that would show the life of a RBC. (Bio 20)

If you want any of these projects please email me and I will get you them.

"All species evolve until they die. Extinction is the end of evolution" – Peter Ward.

Great Movies/ Clips

Darwin's Dangerous Idea - In the first episode of the three-part series, he argues that Darwin's theory has transformed our understanding of what it means to be human. Over the last 150 years, Darwin's ideas have challenged the need for a creator, undermined religious authority, and provided new ways of looking at the origins of human morality. (youtube) – Bio 20

The Great Sperm Race – Life of a sperm ‘blown up’ to human size, meaning one human is equivalent to one sperm. Discusses the journey to fertilization. – Bio 30

<http://www.discoverychannel.ca/showpage.aspx?sid=16698>

TED Talks – talks about evolution – building a dinosaur from a chicken (approximate 15 minutes) - Bio 20

http://www.ted.com/talks/jack_horner_building_a_dinosaur_from_a_chicken.html

The Autism Enigma - A fresh perspective on autism research with the developing "Bacterial Theory" of autism. The fastest-growing developmental disorder in the industrialized world, autism has increased an astounding 600 per cent over the last 20 years. Science cannot say why. Some say it's triggered by environmental factors and point to another intriguing statistic: 70 per cent of kids with autism also have severe gastrointestinal symptoms. – Bio 20 or 30

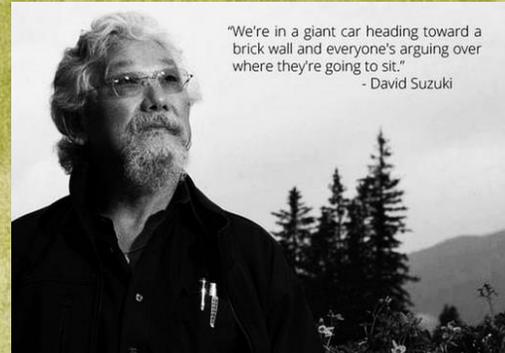
Incredible Creatures that defy Evolution - Bugged by a beetle, a scientist changes his beliefs on how the world began. (youtube or Netflix) – Bio 20

Lives - 1

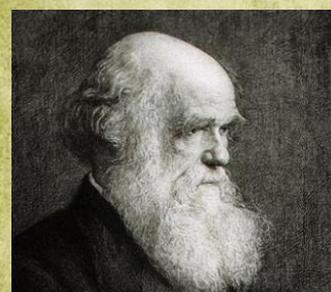


DARWIN AWARD

I has it.

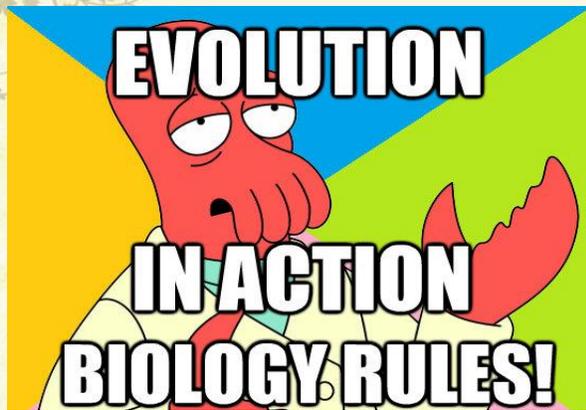


"We're in a giant car heading toward a brick wall and everyone's arguing over where they're going to sit."
- David Suzuki



"It is not the strongest of the species that survives, nor the most intelligent that survives. It is the one that is the most adaptable to change."

Charles Darwin



Learning Coach Projects:

Working with Leanne and anyone else who would like to join, to create a Biology 20 and 30 work book. Included in this workbook are:

- Definitions
- Short answer questions
- Common diagrams to diploma (30)

I am hoping to have the mitosis/meiosis unit done in the next couple of weeks. If you are willing to try it out in your classrooms please let me know. I will work on the 30 workbook this semester and the 20 workbook next semester.



The following dates I am scheduled to meet the following teachers for full days:

October 17 – Tina (afternoon)

October 24 – Penny

November 7 – Leanne

November 14 – Daniel and Daren

Great Reads!

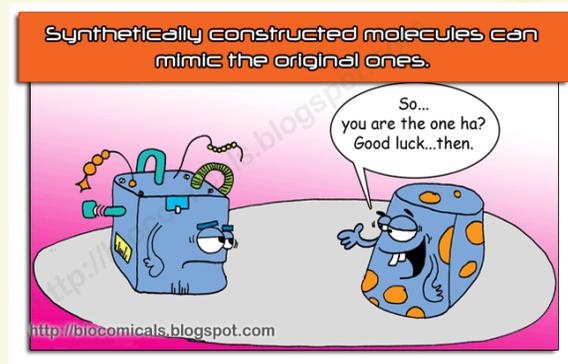


Is Darwin Wrong? - The work of the 19th-century English naturalist shocked society and revolutionized science. How well has it withstood the test of time?

King Tut's DNA - Unlocking Family Secrets – DNA sheds new light on the boy king's life and death.

Examples of Evaluation: Selective Pressures and Adaptations -

<http://www.nescent.org/eog/generalexamples.php>



The Psychology of Cells - New techniques are allowing researchers to measure how the environment affects gene expression, leading to some remarkable insights, including the finding that loneliness primes the immune system to turn on its inflammatory response — a risk factor for disease.

<http://www.apa.org/monitor/2011/05/cells.aspx>

I cannot think of a single field in biology or medicine in which we can claim genuine understanding, and it seems to me the more we learn about living creatures, especially ourselves, the stranger life becomes. ~ Lewis Thomas

October 2012

Moodle Access

Go to <http://collaboration.pwsd76.ab.ca/> and login in with your username and password from school. Scroll down until you see BCP Courses, and click on that. On the next page scroll down to the bottom until you see Link to Sr. High Science PLC on eCommunity and click on that. Next you will need to use an enrollment key to access the website, that key is sci4merules2 and you would have access to all the information. This is an awesome RESOURCE!

*If history and science have
taught us anything, it is that
passion and desire are not
the same as truth. The
human mind evolved to
believe in the gods. It did not
evolve to believe in biology.
~ Edward O. Wilson*

To contact me please email me at
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school at 780-864-3696.

If I were an enzyme
I would be DNA helicase
so I could unzip your genes.