

## COMMON BIOLOGY PREFIXES AND SUFFIXES

PREFIX	MEANING	EXAMPLE				
1. a-, an-	not, without	abiotic, anaerobic		51. geo-	earth	geology
2. ad-	to, toward	adsorption		52. glyc-, glyco-	sugar	glycolysis
3. aero-	air or oxygen	aerobic		53. gymno-	naked	gymnosperm
4. amphi-	both	amphibian		54. gyn-, gyno-	female	gynecology
5. amyl-	starch	amylase		55. halo-	salt	halophyte
1	6. ana-	away, throughout, again		56. haplo-	single, simple	haploid
7. andro-	male	androgen	6	57. heme-, hemo-	blood	hematology
8. angio-	blood vessel, seed case	angioma, angiosperm		58. hepat-, hepato-	liver	hepatitis
9. anthropo-	dealing with mankind	anthropology		59. herb-	plant	herbicide
10. anti-	against, opposite	antibiotic		60. herpeto-	reptile	herpetology
11. arche-	ancient, primitive	archaeology		61. heter-, hetero-	different, other	heterozygous
12. arthr-, arthro-	joint, jointed	arthritis, arthropod		62. hist-, histo-	tissue	histology
13. auto-	self	autotroph		63. homo-, homeo-	same, similar, like	homozygous
14. bacterio-	bacterium, bacteria	bacteriocide		64. hydro-	water	hydrolysis
2	15. bi-	two, twice, double		65. hyper-	above, greater than normal	hyperactive
16. bio-	dealing with life	biology	7	66. hypo-	below, less than normal	hypodermic
17. blast-, blasto-	embryonic	blastomere		67. ichthy-	fish	ichthyology
18. bryo-	moss	bryophyte		68. inter-	between	intercellular
19. cardio-	heart	cardiology		69. intra-	inside of, within	intracellular
20. carn-	flesh	carnivore		70. iso-	equal to	isotonic
21. carb-, carbo-	carbon	carbohydrate		71. lact-, lacto-	milk	lactose
22. cata-	decomposition, degradation	catabolism		72. leuco-, leuko-	white, clear	leucocyte
23. cephal-, cephalo-	head	cephalic		73. lip-, lipo-	fat	liposome
24. cheli-, chela-	claw	cheliped		74. lith-, litho-	stone	lithosphere
3	25. chem-, chemo-	chemical		75. lyso-	release, burst, or destroy	lysozyme
26. chlor-, chloro-	green, chloride	chlorophyll		76. macro-	large	macromolecule
27. chrom-, chromo-	color, colored	chromoplast		77. mega-	large	megaspore
28. crypt-, crypto-	hidden	cryptozoite	8	78. meso-	middle	mesoderm
29. cyan-, cyano-	blue-green	cyanobacteria		79. meta-	beyond, later, or changed	metaphysical, metaphase,
30. cyst-	bladder or sac	cystitis		80. micro-	small, a millionth	microbiology, micron
31. cyto-	cell	cytology		81. milli-	a thousandth	millimeter
32. de-	take away, remove, from	dehydration		82. mille-	a thousand	millennium
33. dendro-	tree	dendrochronology		83. mit-, mito-	thread	mitosis
34. di-	two	disaccharide		84. mono-	one	monosaccharide
4	35. dia-	through, across		85. morph-, morpho-	form or structure	morphology
36. diplo-	twice, double	diploid		86. multi-	many, having many units	multicellular
37. dis-	apart, separate	dissolve	9	87. myc-, myco-	fungus	mycology
38. echin-, echino-	spiny	echinoderm		88. myo-	muscle	myoma
39. ect-, ecto-	outer, outside	ectoderm		89. neph-, nephro-	kidney	nephritis
40. end-	inner, inside	endoderm		90. neur-, neuro-	nerve	neurology
41. endo-	within, internal	endoskeleton		91. olig-, oligo-	scant, few	oligotrophic
42. epi-	upon, above	epidermis		92. omni-	all	omnivore
43. erythro-	red	erythrocyte		93. onco-	tumor	oncogenic
44. eu-	good, true	eukaryotic		94. oo-	egg	oology
5	45. ex-	out, from		95. ophthalm-	eye	ophthalmologist
46. exo-	outer, external	exoskeleton		96. ost-, osteo-	bone	osteocyte
47. extra-	beyond, outside of	extracellular	10	97. ovi-, ova-, ovu-	egg	ovary
48. gam-	unit of sexual fusion	gamete		98. paleo-	ancient, primitive	paleontology
49. gastro-	stomach	gastric		99. pan-	all, entire	pandemic
50. gen-	maker of, origin,	genesis, genetics		100. para-	beside, near	parasitism

	101. path-	disease	pathogenic
	102. peri-	around	perimeter
	103. phago-	to eat	phagocytosis
	104. phon-, phono-	sound	phonoreceptor
	105. phot-, photo-	light	photosynthesis
	106. phyco-	alga, algae	phycologist
11	107. phyt-, phyto-	plant	phytoplankton
	108. plasm-	formative substance	plasmolysis
	109. poly-	many	polysaccharide
	110. post-	after	postnatal
	111. pre-	before	prepupal
	112. pri-	first	primary
	113. pro-	before	prokaryote
	114. prot-, proto-	first	protozoa
	115. pseud-, pseudo-	false	pseudopod
12	116. pyro-	fire	pyrogen
	117. re-	back, again	recombinant
	118. rhiz-, rhizo-	root, rootlike	rhizome
	119. schiz-, schizo-	split, divided	schizophyte
	120. soma-, somato-	body	somatic
	121. sperma-, spermato-	seed	spermatozoa
	122. sporo-	spore	sporophyte
	123. stat-, stato-	standing, stationary	statolith
	124. stoma-, stome-	mouth	stomatitis
	125. sub-	below, under, smaller	subspecies
	126. sym-, syn-	together, with	synapsis
13	127. supra-, super-	above, over	supergenous
	128. taxo-, taxi-	arrangement	taxonomy
	129. tel-, tele-	distant, end	telophase
	130. tetra-	four	tetraploid
	131. therm-	heat	thermometer
	132. tracheo-	tube or vessel	tracheophyte
	133. trans-	across, through, over	translocation
	134. tri-	three	triploid
	135. trich-, tricho-	hair	trichocyst
	136. troph-	to feed or eat	trophic
14	137. uni-	consisting of one	unicellular
	138. xanth-, xantho-	yellow	xanthophyll
	139. xero-	dry	xerophyte
	140. zo-, zoo-	animal	zoology
	141. zygo-	pair, union	zygote
	142. -ase	an enzyme	amylase
	143. -biosis	mode of living	symbiosis
	144. -chrome	color	cytochrome
	145. -cyst	pouch, sac	trichocyst
	146. -cyte	cell	leucocyte
15	147. -derm, -dermis	layer, skin	ectoderm, epidermis
	148. -ectomy	to cut out	laryngectomy
	149. -fer, -fera	to carry	rotifer, rotifera
	150. -form, -formes	having the form of	falconiform

	151. -gamy	pertaining to fertilization	autogamy
	152. -gen, -genic	maker, producer	thermogenic
	153. -genesis	beginning or origin	gametogenesis
	154. -graph	instrument that makes written records	thermograph
	155. -gram	written record	angiogram
	156. -hydrate	formed with water	carbohydrate
16	157. -icide	killer, a killing	pesticide
	158. -itis	inflammation, infection	laryngitis
	159. -ivore	feeding	herbivore
	160. -lith	rock or stone	otolith
	161. -lysis, -lytic	destroying, separating	hydrolysis
	162. -mer	a part	monomer
	163. -meter	measuring instrument	thermometer
	164. -morph	form	lagomorph
	165. -oid	having the form of	graminoid
	166. -ol	an alcohol	ethanol
17	167. -oma	tumor	osteoma
	168. -ose	a sugar	lactose
	169. -osis	condition or process	mitosis
	170. -ped	foot	cheliped
	171. -phage	eater	bacteriophage
	172. -phase	stage	prophase
	173. -phore	bearing or carrying	chromatophore
	174. -phyll	leaf	chlorophyll
	175. -phyte	plant	epiphyte
	176. -plasm	formative substance	cytoplasm
18	177. -plast	organized particle	chloroplast
	178. -ploid	number of chromosomes	diploid
	179. -pod	foot	arthropod
	180. -soma, -some	body	chromosome
	181. -stasis	stationary condition	homeostasis
	182. -stat	stationary, still	hemostat
	183. -therm	heat	poikilotherm
	184. -tome, -tomy	to section or cut	microtome
	185. -troph	feeder	heterotroph
	186. -zoa	animals	protozoa
		— <b>Addenda</b> —	
19	187. aureo-	golden	
	188. carcino-	cancer	
	189. helio-	sun	
	190. -iasis	parasite infestation	
	191. neo-	new	
	192. opter	wing	
	193. ornitho-	bird	
	194. ortho-	straight	
	195. platy-	flat	
	196. xyl-	wood	