

Hear ye! Hear ye!

Biology (digital) Newspaper Assignment

In groups of 3-4, your task is to construct an issue for *Biology Times*. You will construct a digital newspaper on one of the units from our course of study. Units will be assigned on a first come/first serve basis. Depending on the size of the class, there may be a duplicate in newspapers for each respective unit or an increase in cap size for the groups. Naturally, the length of the paper will accommodate for this increase as well. All content in the newspaper must be related to the unit in some way. Please keep in mind though, you will have other assignments/tests dispersed throughout the semester, while juggling this assignment.

Digital Newspaper Due Dates:

Unit	Proposal Due Date	Project Due Date
Diversity of Living Things OR Plants: Anatomy, Growth and Function	Monday September 16	Monday September 30
Genetic Processes	Monday October 14	Monday October 28
Evolution	Monday November 11	Monday November 25
Animal Structure and Function	Monday December 2	Monday December 16

Students will be assessed individually. Students must choose a task or a combination of tasks to give them a total of **20** points in value. Your newsletter should cover the spectrum of the unit (refer to your textbook as a guide). Topics should go beyond what is in the text or material covered in class. Two weeks prior to the newspaper deadline, each group member must complete and hand in a detailed proposal (refer to last page).

Please note:

EACH STUDENT MUST SUBMIT THEIR WORK TO TURNITIN.COM INDIVIDUALLY AS WELL ON THE PROJECT DUE DATE.

The components of the newspaper can be the following:

- 1. A biology current event report / news article. Must be in the last 5 years (2007 & above) (20 marks)**
 - Select a current events topic to research
 - Use at least 3 resources to gather the information. One source MUST be a scientific journal (ie. Scientific American, Nature, Science Daily, National Geographic, etc.) or a book. Do not include Wikipedia as a source! You must submit these articles to your teacher when you hand in your newspaper
 - Provide a detailed summary of the information researched. Connect the researched information with material learned in Biology. Reflect and provide extensions to science, technology, society and environment

- 2. Book review and analysis (20 marks)**
 - Students are to select one of the books provided on the book list (fiction or non-fiction). Please ask the teacher for the book list
 - Summarize and critique the book for its enjoyment and information provided
 - Elaborate extensively on the biology learned from the book making connections to course content. Outside resources may be consulted to learn more about these topics

- 3. A health and wellness article. Must be in the last 5 years (2006 & above) (20 marks)**
 - Select a current topic such as: nutrition and diet, cancer, cancer treatment, nutrition, circulatory diseases, respiratory diseases from at least 3 sources. These articles must be submitted on the due date. One article must be from a scientific journal (ie. Scientific American, Nature, Science Daily, National Geographic, etc.). Wikipedia or any encyclopedia is not considered a source. Remember your article must be related to the unit.
 - Provide a detailed overview of the issue. Debunk any myths surrounding the topic
 - Give tips to the reader to achieve health and wellness, as related to your topic

- 4. Movie review and analysis (10 marks)**
 - Students are to select a Hollywood movie from a list provided by the teacher or provide a suggestion of their choice to have it approved by the teacher. YouTube videos do not count
 - Summarize and critique the movie for its enjoyment and information provided
 - Elaborate extensively on the biology learned from the movie making connections to course content. Outside resources may be consulted to learn more about topics

- 5. An interview with someone in the biology or biology-related field (10 marks)**
 - e.g. nursing, medical technologists, researcher
 - The following details must be included: Job description, personal attributes in order to be successful in this field, education required, salary range, interesting anecdotes, how does biology play a recurring role, related careers.

- 6. A comic strip about a Canadian biologist (10 marks)**
 - Select a Canadian scientist who has made a significant contribution to the study of Biology: Go to <http://www.science.ca/scientists/scientists.php> for a list of famous Canadian biologists
 - Summarize his or her life story, giving emphasis to his or her discovery or invention in the form of a comic strip

- 7. An advertisement about an invention or piece of technology in the field of Biology (10 marks)**
 - Besides being highly visual, the advertisement should include information as to what the invention or technology does, how it works and why it is important to society. Provide the pros/cons of the invention and/or technology

- Some technologies you may want to research include new treatments for cancer, uses of radioactive labeling, phytoremediation MRI, nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR), CAT scans, prosthetics, artificial pacemakers, etc
- 8. Discover a biological organization (10 marks)**
- Provide information on a biological organization in an interesting manner e.g. a mock or real interview
 - Discuss the mission statement of the organization, what they have done, what they intend to do, how many members, their contribution to science, etc
 - Discuss what interests you about the organization and what does not interest you about them
- 9. Letter to the editor (10 marks)**
- Write a letter to the editor taking a stance on an issue. This can be a response to a specific issue that has been published in a scientific journal (ie. Scientific American, Nature, Science Daily, National Geographic, etc.). You must submit the scientific paper you are discussing along with your newspaper
 - Write from the perspective of a Biology student. Your letter should convey concepts you have learned in Biology along with personal opinions, experiences and observations
- 10. Biology & Business (10 marks)**
- Research a business in the biology field (e.g. pharmaceutical company, cryogenic company etc)
 - Conduct research on the company. Discuss the cost analysis of the product (is the product worth its current market value? Is it overpriced? Are there other services for a cheaper cost?). Report the success of the business/product, what market the product is catered to, the difficulties and limitations the business may have encountered
 - If this particular business had a stock, would you invest in it? Provide a detailed opinion
- 11. Entertainment (5 marks)**
- Create an entertainment section including one of the following: cartoon, horoscopes, crossword puzzle, word jumbles/scrabble, or anything of your choice. All products must be original and act as a review of the material in this unit
 - Answer key must be included
- 12. What's New in the T.O. (5 marks)**
- Highlight an exciting and interesting event in Toronto with respect to the particular unit in Biology
 - Discuss some interesting facts and why someone should go to this place on a Saturday afternoon...or night?
 - Be creative in persuading potential attendees to this event!
- 13. Editor (10 marks)**
- Delegation of tasks and ensuring topics were signed up appropriately, while avoiding overlap
 - Names of authors are attached to each piece of work
 - Responsible for ensuring the writing is proofread, coherent and flows well
 - Articles (1,2,3) are roughly of equal length
 - Each written piece has at least one accompanying picture/illustration/visual/graph that is relevant
 - Proper online newspaper format is used (see below)*
 - Newspaper shows creativity and captures audience attention
 - References for all pieces are put together in one list in proper APA format
 - Submit newspaper into turnitin.com and ensure all scientific journals were submitted with the newspaper

Your newsletter should meet the following criteria:

- A title for the newsletter
- In website format, using a free webpage builder

<http://www.wix.com/>
<http://www.webs.com/>
<https://www.yola.com/>
<https://www.smore.com/>

- If you are familiar in coding a webpage from scratch, you are welcome to. It is however, strongly discouraged because of the time commitment involved. Further, no supplementary marks will be assigned to a hard-coded website
- Each member's articles should be roughly equal length (options 1, 2, 3)
- At least 1 picture or visual aid relevant to the topic is provided
- Each article should have a title and the name of the student author
- The layout of the newsletter is visually pleasing. Feel free to use the templates provided by the web-host
- Proper grammar, spelling and punctuation
- Language must be clear, concise and scientific terminology must be used appropriately
- Footnotes for any information that is not commonly known are included at the end of the article
- Minimum of 3 sources for information, properly referenced at the end of the article/visual
- Evaluation sheet must be attached
- Contract should be filled out.
- **Plagiarized articles will be given a mark of zero. Any information that is not common knowledge and not referenced will be considered to be plagiarism.**

You must credit all sources!!!!

BIOLOGY (DIGITAL) NEWSLETTER EVALUATION

Names of students: _____

INDIVIDUAL MARK

Student Name _____

TASK	NAME	MARK
1. Current event report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Easy to understand, coherent, concise, organized with introduction and conclusion • Quality information was provided with a lot of detail to understand the topic • Interesting points were made and connections were made with information learned in the course • Discussed societal, economic, and political issues • 3 resources consulted with at least one being a scientific article or book (submitted with newspaper) 		0 4 8 10 12 14 16 18 20
2. Book review (please confirm book with teacher) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summarized contents of book • Reflected on the book and formed an opinion on the topic and book • Discussed the biological concepts in detail and connected it to information from the course and other resources 		0 4 8 10 12 14 16 18 20
3. A health and wellness article <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accurate, detailed information presented in a coherent and organized manner • Interesting points were highlighted and connections were made with information learned in the course • Debunk any myths surrounding the topic • Give tips to the reader to achieve health and wellness, as related to your topic • 3 resources consulted with at least one being a scientific article or book (submitted with paper) 		0 4 8 10 12 14 16 18 20
4. Movie review (must confirm movie with teacher) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summarized content of movie • Reflected on the movie and formed an opinion on the topic • Discussed the biological concepts in detail and connected it to information from the course and other resources 		0 2 4 6 8 10
5. An interview with someone in the biology or biology-related field <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The following details were included: job description, personal attributes in order to be successful in this job, education required, salary range, interesting anecdotes, how does biology play a role on a regular basis, related careers • Information was presented in an interesting way • Resources provided 		0 2 4 6 8 10
6. A comic strip about a Canadian biologist <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The scientists' work was analyzed well • Summarized his or her life story, giving emphasis to his or her discovery or invention in the form of a comic strip • Resources provided 		0 2 4 6 8 10
7. An advertisement about an invention or piece of technology		0 2 4 6 8 10

<p>in the field of Biology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advertisement was highly visual • The advertisement included information as to what the invention or technology does, how it works and why it is important • Connections and extensions were made with information learned in class • Resources provided 		
<p>8. Discover a biological organization</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided information on a biological organization in an interesting manner e.g. an interview • Discussed the mission statement of the organization, what they have done, what they intend to do, how many members etc • Discussed what interests you about the organization and what does not interest you about them • Resources provided 		0 2 4 6 8 10
<p>9. Letter to the editor</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided information on a current issue published in a scientific journal (must submit journal article with newspaper) • In letter-format to the editor • Discussed biology content learned in class, personal opinions, experiences and observations in a detailed, concise and persuasive manner • Resources provided 		0 2 4 6 8 10
<p>10. Biology & Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detailed research on a biological company • Discussed the benefits/limitations of their product, target market, annual profits, competition etc • Discussed whether or not it is worth investing in the company • Resources provided 		0 2 4 6 8 10
<p>11. Entertainment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 original entertainment piece is included WITH solutions! • Entertainment piece should review concepts in the unit 		0 1 2 3 4 5
<p>12. What's New in T.O.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Highlights an interesting science-related event • Persuasive in explaining how one would benefit "scientifically" from attending the event • Resource provided 		0 1 2 3 4 5
<p>13. Editor</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure no overlap of tasks within group and with other groups • Visually pleasing, included at least 1 relevant and creative picture for each written piece, neat, organized in web-format according to guidelines, shows effort and attention to detail • Informative, accurate, covers the required elements, good grammar, spelling, punctuation • Shows effort, imagination, originality, creativity, and interest • Articles were roughly equal in length (options 1, 2, 3) • References given for all information or ideas gathered from various sources, references are correctly cited in APA format 		0 2 4 6 8 10

NEWSPAPER ASSIGNMENT SIGN UP

DATE/UNIT	Group 1	Group 2
	Name & Task(s) Chosen	Name & Task(s) Chosen
Diversity of Living Things (Due Sept 30)		
Plants: Anatomy, Growth and Function (Due Sept 30)		
Genetic Processes (Due Oct 28)		
Evolution (Due Nov 25)		
Animal Structure and Function (Due Dec 16)		

Name: _____

DIGITAL NEWSPAPER ASSIGNMENT PROJECT PROPOSAL

WORTH: 5 Marks

DUE:

- Diversity of Living Things OR Plants: Anatomy, Growth and Function (Due Sept 16)
- Genetic Processes (Due Oct 14)
- Evolution (Due Nov 11)
- Animal Structure and Function (Due Dec 2)

Task(s) Chosen (total of 20 marks): _____

Movie and Books must be approved by your teacher. Please indicate (if applicable) the name of the book or movie here:

Provide your **detailed** research notes conducted to date for your task(s). Include journal article reference (if applicable), information you plan on including and topics you want to further research. Attach the actual journal articles you will use for your topic. (3)

What are some resources that you have consulted? Minimum of two should be provided. (1)

What is your plan of action to complete your part of the project? Include a timeline of dates and tasks to be completed. (1)

How do you plan on compiling your digital newspaper? Discuss with your group members and include the details below (ie. dates and tasks).