

Biological Literature

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A. Kinds of biological literature ([link](#))

B. Definitions

- Science: The word science means different things to different people. When biologists speak of science, they usually mean basic science, but when the public speaks of science, they most often mean applied science. It may be difficult for beginning biology students to recognize the difference between basic and applied science. What's the difference?
- Basic science: The goal of basic biological science is to understand how the world works. The motivation for doing basic research is to gain knowledge. Basic science is the foundation of applied science; without it, there could be no applied science. Examples of basic biological science include physiology, ecology, immunology, cell biology, behavior, and biochemistry.
- Applied science: The goal of applied biological science is to improve the human condition. The motivation for doing applied research is to improve environmental or human health or to generate financial gain. Examples of applied biological science include all forms of medicine (veterinary, dentistry, medicine, epidemiology, nursing, etc.), pharmacology, conservation biology, horticulture, forestry, environmental science, and wildlife management.

C. Searching the basic science primary literature ([library](#))

D. How to read a primary literature paper ([link](#))

E. Example primary literature paper ([link](#))