

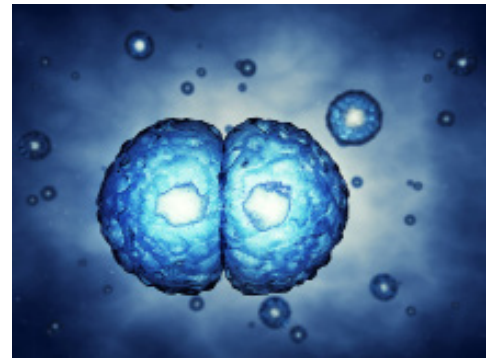
18 Biology

The word *biology* comes from the Greek words *bios* (life) and *logos* (study). Biology is the study of living things, from tiny **bacteria** to entire **ecosystems**. The invention of the **microscope** helped scientists gain a deeper understanding of tiny organisms such as very young plants and animals, bacteria, and viruses. Microscopes also helped scientists discover and understand cells. One key idea of biology is that all life is made of one or more cells. A second key idea of biology is **heredity**. Heredity is the way living things pass characteristics to the next generation. For example, a child may **inherit** blue eyes from a parent. **Genes**, which are inside cells, are the basic unit of heredity. Biology also explains where plants and animals live and how they survive. In addition, biologists study an animal's growth, evolution and classification. Many animals and plants interacting with each other and non-living aspects of their environment make an ecosystem.

Check the above bold, read the paragraph, then brainstorm more vocabulary below.



ecosystem

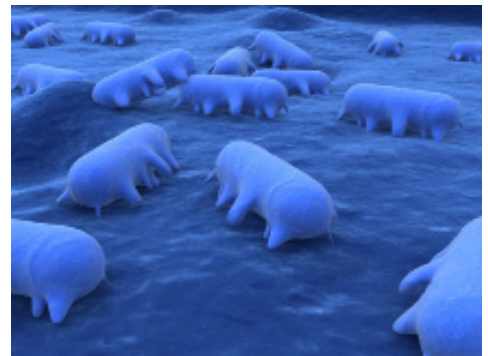


cell



blossom

tardigrade



fungus

backbone

