

Purpose: To allow students the opportunity to research a biology topic in more depth than what was covered during the regular school year. In addition, it will provide students the opportunity to read current scientific information and extend what they have learned in class to their topic of interest.

- ⇒ Each student will pick a book (fiction or non-fiction) or 3 science journal articles (Discover, National Geographic, and/or Scientific American...must be at least 5 pages long) of his/her choosing on biological content related to a topic that you are interested in learning more about. After the initial reading, the student will need to find at least 2 more credible sources to further research his/her topic of interest.
- ⇒ The book or articles must be approved by Mrs. Fischer. There will be a list of suggested books to choose from, however, students are not limited to that list.
- ⇒ Students will need to have the articles/book chosen by April 30th and begin reading. Time will be provided in class to read and create the presentation.
- ⇒ Topics need to be chosen and approved by Mrs. Fischer no later than May 6th. The more specific the topic, the easier it will be to focus the research.
- ⇒ Each student will “be the expert” and present what he/she has learned to the rest of the class. Your presentation method must be approved by Mrs. Fischer. Because the student is choosing the topic he/she is presenting, the student needs to become the expert on it. Therefore, do not “read” the presentation to the audience. Students are expected to “talk” to the class about the topic.
- ⇒ This is an **INDIVIDUAL** project.
- ⇒ Presentations should be 3-5 minutes in length.

Presentations must include the following:

- Provide a brief summary of the content from your book and/or articles.
- Why did you choose this topic?
- How is your topic related to what was covered in class this year?
- What is the current status/research on this topic? Include any political/legislative/ethical/funding issues.
- Why should the audience be interested in your topic of interest?
- Complete bibliography for your resources using APA format.

Book Suggestions:

Fiction

- *The Andromeda Strain* by Michael Crichton
- *The Hot Zone* by Richard Preston
- *Darwin’s Radio* by Greg Bear
- *White Shark* by Peter Benchley
- *My Sister’s Keeper* by Jodi Picoult
- *Elixir* by Gary Braver
- *The Devil’s Workshop* by Stephen Cannell
- *The First Horseman* by John Case
- *The Experiment* by John Darnton
- *Brave New World* by Aldous Huxley
- *Handle with Care* by Jodi Picoult
- *Seize the Night* by Dean Koontz
- *Beyond Recall* by Stephen Kyle
- *Carriers* by Patrick Lynch

- *Omega* by Patrick Lynch
- *Biostrike* by M.E. Morris
- *The Cobra Event* by Richard Preston
- *The Devil's Cure* by Kenneth Oppel
- *Nature's End: The Consequences of the Twentieth Century* by Whitley Schreiber, et al.
- *Galapagos* by Kurt Vonnegut
- *The Bleeding* by Joseph Wambaugh
- *House Rules* by Jodi Picoult

Book Suggestions:

Non-Fiction

- *The Demon in the Freezer* by Richard Preston
- *When Elephants Weep* by Jeffrey Moussaieff Masson and Susan McCarthy
- *Death's Acre: Inside the Legendary Forensic Lab the Body Farm Where the Dead Do Tell Tales* By William Bass and Jon Jefferson
- *Chemical Communication: The Language of Pheromones* by William C. Agosta
- *The Clone Age: Adventures in the New World of Reproductive Technology* by Lori B. Andrews
- *The Beauty of the Beastly* by Natalie Angier
- *Natural Obsessions: Striving to Unlock the Deepest Secrets of the Cancer Cell* by Natalie Angier
- *The Secret House: 24 Hours in the Strange and Unexpected World in Which We Spend Our Nights and Days* by David Bodanis
- *A Short History of Nearly Everything* by Bill Bryson
- *Silent Spring* by Rachel Carson
- *Ebola: Through the Eyes of the People* by William T. Close
- *Our Stolen Future* by Theo Colborn
- *Portrait of a Killer: Jack the Ripper Case Closed* by Patricia Cornwell
- *The Broken Cord: A Family's Ongoing Struggle with Fetal Alcohol Syndrome* by Michael Dorris
- *Cheating Monkeys and Citizen Bees: The Nature of Cooperation in Animals and Humans* by Lee Alan Dugatkin
- *In the Shadow of Man* by Jane Goodall
- *Doing Biology* by Joel Hagen
- *Living with Our Genes: Why They Matter More Than You Think* by Dean Hamer
- *E. coli 0157: The True Story of a Mother's Battle with a Killer Microbe* by Mary E. Heersink
- *Darwin's Ghost* by Steve Jones
- *Flu: The Story of the Great Influenza Pandemic* by Gina Kolata
- *Into Thin Air: A Personal Account of the Mount Everest Disaster* by Jon Krakauer
- *Mutants: On Genetic Variety and The Human Body* by Armand Leroi
- *Dead Men Do Tell Tales: The Strange and Fascinating Cases of a Forensic Pathologist* by William Maples
- *Stalking Justice* by Paul Mones
- *Viruses, Plagues, and History* by Michael Oldstone
- *Virus Hunters: Thirty Years of Battling Hot Viruses Around the World* by C.J. Peters, et al.
- *Genome: The Autobiography of a Species in 23 Chapters* by Matt Ridley
- *Nature Via Nurture: Genes, Experience & What Makes Us Human* by Matt Ridley
- *Serendipity: Accidental Discoveries in Science* by Royston M. Roberts
- *Fast Food Nation: The Dark Side of the All-American Meal* by Eric Schlosser
- *The Killers Within: The Deadly Rise of Drug-Resistant Bacteria* by Michael Shnayerson and Mark Plotkin
- *Threads of Evidence* by Herman Silverstein
- *Parasite Rex: Inside the Bizarre World of Nature's Most Dangerous Creatures* by Carl Zimmer