



BIOLOGY

A COMMUNITY CONTEXT

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South-Western's **BIOLOGY: A COMMUNITY CONTEXT™** is an inquiry-based learning approach that connects biology to you and your community.

In the eight units of this text, you investigate the key biological concepts behind issues that affect you.

- Video segments present the issues.
- You use a **BioLog** to record your observations, data, questions, and conclusions.
- And you work together—in small groups and as a whole class—brainstorming issues, asking questions, setting up and conducting investigations, sharing results, and making decisions.

Here's a sample of what you'll experience:

- In **Unit 1: Matter and Energy for Life**, you build your own compost column or a class compost pile to discover the changes in matter and energy over time.
- In **Unit 2: Ecosystems**, you grow bean and pea seeds to discover ideal conditions for growth.
- In **Unit 3: Populations**, you culture your own population to understand its unique survival needs and possible interactions with other populations.
- In **Unit 4: Homeostasis**, you observe how different organisms ingest and digest food.
- In **Unit 5: Inheritance**, you extract and observe real DNA from plant and animal cells.
- In **Unit 6: Behavior and the Nervous System**, you experience the limits of your own performance in learning simple tasks.
- In **Unit 7: Biodiversity**, you discover what other organisms besides you also go to school.
- In **Unit 8: The Biosphere**, you play the role of an archeologist in the year 4000 AD and examine the impact of humans on the earth.



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Making the Connection

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