STEAM Tech Teams

Glossary of Terms



ID/Type/OLE		Word/Definition/Link
543	Biomolecules	Alpha Helix
		n. A secondary structure of proteins that is right-hand coiled or spiral in form, in which every N-H backbone group donates a hydrogen bond to the backbone C=O group of the amino acid.
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alpha_helix
540	Biomolecules	Amino Acid
		n. Organic molecules containing amine (-NH2) and carboxyl (-COOH) groups along with a "side chain."
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Amino_acid
141	Biomolecules	Amino Sugar
		n. In chemistry an amino sugar (technically 2-amino-2-deoxysugar) is a sugar molecule (i.e. a glucose or a fructose) in which a hydroxyl (i.e. with an OH-) group has been replaced with an amine (contains a Nitrogen atom) group.
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Amino_sugar
137	Biomolecules	Angstrom
		n. A unit of measurement in the metric system equal to one ten-billionth of a meter.
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/%C3%85ngstr%C3%B6m
145	Biomolecules	Anti-parallel
		adv. Description of the orientation of two polymer strands that are aligned next to each other but in opposite orientations. Used to describe the two strands in DNA.
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Antiparallel_(biochemistry)
130	Biomolecules	Atom
		n. The smallest unit of ordinary matter that has the properties of a chemical element.
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Atom

ID/Type/OLE		Word/Definition/Link
449	Biomolecules	Ball-and-stick Model
		 n. In chemistry, the ball-and-stick model is a molecular model of a chemical substance which displays both the three-dimensional position of the atoms and bonds between them.
218	Biomolecules	Base
		 n. Nitrogen-containing ring structures with properties of a base found in DNA and RNA. There are four bases in DNA (adenine, cytidine, guanine and thymine) in DNA. In RNA thymine is replaced by uracil.
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nucleobase
544	Biomolecules	Beta Sheet
		n. A secondary structure in proteins where the beta strands are connected laterally and, thereby, results in a flat structure.
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Beta_sheet
219	Biomolecules	Biocomputer
		n. Computers constructed of biomolecules instead of classical electronics. The can be based on DNA, RNA, or proteins.
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Biological_computing
436	Biomolecules	Cell Communication
		n. Also referred to as "cell signaling." The inter-cellular communication process that governs the basic activities of cells and coordinates all cell actions.
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cell_signaling
220	Biomolecules	Cell Cytoplasm
		n. The part of an eukaryotic cell outside of the nucleus. The cytoplasm is the site of protein synthesis.
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cytoplasm

ID/Type/OLE		Word/Definition/Link
146	Biomolecules	Cell Nucleus
		n. The part of an eukaryotic cell containing DNA and the site of DNA transcription.
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cell_nucleus
437	Biomolecules	Cell Signaling
		n. Also referred to as "cell communication." The inter-cellular communication process that governs the basic activities of cells and coordinates all cell actions.
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cell_signaling
534	Biomolecules	Codis Data Base
		n. Refers to the "Combined DNA Index System." It is the United States' national data base created by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI).
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Combined_DNA_Index_System
221	Biomolecules	Complementarity
		n. The attraction between bases from opposite strands in DNA and RNA leading to the base pairing rules of A-T and G-C in DNA and A-U and G-C in RNA.
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Complementarity_(molecular_biology)
445	Biomolecules	Corticotropin-releasing Hormone Receptor 1
		n. As known as "CRF1 Receptor." Binds with corticotropin releasing hormone, a potent mediator of endocrine, autonomic, behavioral and immune responses to stress.
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Corticotropin-releasing_hormone_receptor_1
222	Biomolecules	Covalent Bond
		n. A bond created between two atoms through the sharing of electrons.
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Covalent_bond

ID/Type/OLE		Word/Definition/Link
444	Biomolecules	CRF1 Receptor
		n. As known as "Corticotropin-releasing Hormone Receptor 1." Binds with corticotropin releasing hormone, a potent mediator of endocrine, autonomic, behavioral and immune responses to stress.
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Corticotropin-releasing_hormone_receptor_1
223	Biomolecules	Cytidine
		n. One of the four bases in DNA and RNA usually represented as "C."
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nucleobase
224	Biomolecules	Cytosine
		n. Cytidine when attached to a sugar present in DNA or RNA (deoxyribose or ribose, respectively).
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nucleoside
439	Biomolecules	Dalton (Da)
		n. A standard unit of mass that quantifies mass on an atomic or molecular scale. One unified atomic mass is approximately the mass of one nucleon (either a single proton or neutron).
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Unified_atomic_mass_unit
153	Biomolecules	Diploid
		adj. Having two copies of each chromosome. Most vertebrates are diploid.
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ploidy - Diploid
139	Biomolecules	DNA
		n. Deoxyribonucleic acid. The biopolymer containing the genetic information and instructions of all known living organisms.
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/DNA

ID/Type/OLE		Word/Definition/Link
147	Biomolecules	DNA Transcription
		n. The process in which the genetic information in DNA is copied into messenger RNA (mRNA).
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Transcription (biology)
524	Biomolecules	Dominance (Recessive)
		 A relationship between alleles of one gene in which the effect on phenotype of one allele masks the contribution of a second allele at the same locus. Often the dominant allele codes for a protein while the recessive allele does not.
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dominance_(genetics)
252	Biomolecules	Electrolysis (of water)
		n. Decomposition of the water molecule (H2O)in hydrogen (H2) and oxygen (O2) due to an electric current being passed through the water.
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Electrolysis_of_water
135	Biomolecules	Electron
		n. A sub-atomic particle bearing negative charge that participates in covalent bonds between atoms.
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Electron
136	Biomolecules	Electron Hole
		n. The absence of an electron in a position where it otherwise could exist.
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Electron_hole
536	Biomolecules	Electrophoresis
		n. The motion of dispersed particles relative to a fluid under the influence of a uniform electric field.
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Electrophoresis

ID/Type/OLE		Word/Definition/Link
311	Biomolecules	Ethidium Bromide
		n. An intercalating agent commonly used as a fluorescing agent in molecular laboratories for techniques such as agarose gel electrophoresis.
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ethidium_bromide
176	Biomolecules	Eukaryote
		n. Any organism whose cells contain a nucleus enclosed with a membrane. Eukaryotes can be single cell organisms (yeast) or multi-cellular (vertebrates).
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eukaryote
314	Biomolecules	Fluorescence
		n. The emission of light by a substance that has absorbed light or other electromagnetic radiation. A form of luminescence.
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fluorescence
313	Biomolecules	Fluorescent Tag
		n. A molecule that is attached chemically to aid in the labelling and detection of a biomolecule such as a protein, antibody or an amino acid.
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fluorescent_tag
435	Biomolecules	Gel Electrophoresis
		n. A method of separation and analysis of macromolecules (DNA, RNA and proteins) and their fragments based upon their size and/or density and charge.
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gel_electrophoresis
438	Biomolecules	Glucagon Receptor
		n. A 62 kDa protein activated by glucagon.
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Glucagon_receptor

ID/Type/OLE		Word/Definition/Link
248	Biomolecules	Guanine
		 n. One of four bases in DNA and RNA usually represented as "G." https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nucleobase
227	Biomolecules	Guanosine
		n. Guanine when attached to the sugar present in DNA or RNA (deoxyribose or ribose, respectively).
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nucleoside
140	Biomolecules	Helix
		n. A type of curved shape in three-dimensional space. In biology, DNA is a helix, with two polymer strands entwined around each other in a helical shape (the well known double helix).
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Helix
535	Biomolecules	Hemoglobin
		n. Referred to as "Hb." The iron-containing oxygen transport metalloprotein in the red blood cells of all vertebrates (except the fish family of Channichthydae) as well as the tissues of some invertebrates.
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hemoglobin
228	Biomolecules	Hydrogen Bond
		 A non-covalent bond created by the attraction between positive and negative regions of molecules that is important in holding the two strands of DNA together because of attractions between the complementary bases.
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hydrogen_bond
450	Biomolecules	Insulin
		n. A peptide produced by the beta cells in the pancreatic islets. It regulates the metabolism of carbohydrates, fats and protein. It promotes the absorption of, especially glucose, from the blood into fat, liver and skeletal muscle cells.
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Insulin

ID/Type/OLE		Word/Definition/Link
152	Biomolecules	Integrase
		n. An enzyme (a protein that catalyzes or enhances a chemical reaction) that inverts a sequence of DNA by 1) cutting the sugar-phosphate backbone at specific positions, 2) flipping the released segment of double-stranded DNA, 3) and rejoining the DNA.
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Integrase
229	Biomolecules	Integrase (invertase)
		n. An enzyme (a protein that catalyzes or enhances a chemical reaction) that inverts a sequence of DNA by 1) cutting the sugar-phosphate backbone at specific positions, 2) flipping the released segment of double-stranded DNA, 3) and rejoining the DNA.
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Site-specific_recombination
312	Biomolecules	Intercalation
		In Biochemistry, intercalation is the insertion of molecules between planar bases of DNA.
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Intercalation (biochemistry)
151	Biomolecules	Invertase
		n. An enzyme (a protein that catalyzes or enhances a chemical reaction) that inverts a sequence of DNA by 1) cutting the sugar-phosphate backbone at specific positions, 2) flipping the released segment of double-stranded DNA, 3) and rejoining the DNA.
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Invertase
434	Biomolecules	Isoelectric Point
		n. The pH at which a particular molecule carries no net electrical charge. Commonly denoted as pI or pH(I).
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Isoelectric_point
446	Biomolecules	Macromolecule
		n. A very large molecule such as a protein, commonly created by the polymerization of smaller subunits.
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Macromolecule

ID/Type/OLE		Word/Definition/Link
230	Biomolecules	Messenger RNA
L		n. The RNA copy, usually represented as mRNA, of a DNA-coded gene used to synthesize proteins.
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Messenger_RNA
442	Biomolecules	Metabotropic Glutamate Receptor 5
		n. Also referred to a "mGIu5 Receptor." A G protein coupled receptor that in humans is encoded in the GRM5 gene.
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Metabotropic_glutamate_receptor_5
443	Biomolecules	mGlu5 Receptor
L		n. Also referred to a "Metabotropic Glutamate Receptor 5." A G protein coupled receptor that in humans is encoded in the GRM5 gene.
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Metabotropic_glutamate_receptor_5
132	Biomolecules	Micrometer
		n. A measure of distance equal to one-millionth of a meter.
231	Biomolecules	Micron
		n. A measure of distance equal to .000001 meter also known as a micrometer.
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Micrometre
131	Biomolecules	Molecule
		n. A group of atoms held together by covalent bonds.
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Molecule

ID/Type/OLE		Word/Definition/Link
144	Biomolecules	Monomer
		n. Identifiable minimal units that are linked together to form a polymer chain by covalent bonds.
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Monomer
529	Biomolecules	Morphology
		n. Refers to an organism's outward appearance.
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Morphology_(biology)
530	Biomolecules	Mutation
		n. A permanent alteration of the nucleotide sequence of the genome of an organism, virus or extrachromosomal DNA.
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mutation
133	Biomolecules	Nanometer
		n. A measure of distance equal to .000000001 meter, or 10 Angstroms.
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nanometre
142	Biomolecules	Nucleobase (Base)
		n. One of four nucleic acids that express the information in DNA or RNA: adenine, thymine, cytosine and guanine.
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nucleobase
232	Biomolecules	Nucleoside
		n. A DNA or RNA base when attached to either deoxyribose (DNA) or ribose (RNA).
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nucleoside

ID/Type/OLE		Word/Definition/Link
233	Biomolecules	Nucleotide
		n. A DNA or RNA nucleoside attached to 1-3 phosphate groups. The monomers in DNA and RNA are nucleotides monophosphates.
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nucleotide
542	Biomolecules	Peptide Bond
		n. A covalent chemical bond linking two consecutive amino acid monomers along a peptide or protein chain.
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Peptide_bond
538	Biomolecules	рН
		n. "Potential of Hydrogen." The numeric scale used to specify the acidity or basicity of an aqueous solution.
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/PH
528	Biomolecules	Phenotype
		n. The composite of an organism's observable characteristics or traits such as morphology, development, behavior etc.
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Phenotype
234	Biomolecules	Phosphate
L		n. A molecule containing phosphorous and oxygen with four oxygens bound to the phosphorous.
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Phosphate
537	Biomolecules	РКА
		n. Acid dissociation constant often written as "pKa.". The pH at which a molecule has no "net charge."
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Acid_dissociation_constant

ID/Type/OLE		Word/Definition/Link
448	Biomolecules	Plasmin (Plasminogen)
		n. An enzyme in the blood that degrades many blood plasma proteins.
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Plasmin
143	Biomolecules	Polymer
		n. A large molecule, often linear which is made up of repeated identical or similar monomers such as plastics (nylon etc.) or biopolymers (DNA, RNA, and proteins).
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Polymer
447	Biomolecules	Polymer
		n. A large molecule composed of repeated subunits or monomers.
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Polymer
235	Biomolecules	Polymerase
		n. Enzymes that synthesizes DNA or RNA by copying a parental DNA template. RNA polymerase makes messenger RNA used to synthesize proteins. The process of making messenger RNA by RNA polymerase copying of DNA is called transcription.
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/RNA_polymerase
315	Biomolecules	Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR)
		n. A techniques used in Molecular Biology to multiply a single copy, or a few copies of DNA.
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Polymerase_chain_reaction
236	Biomolecules	Polyploidy
		n. Having more than two copies of each chromosome, a common feature of certain plants.
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Polyploid

ID/Type/OLE		Word/Definition/Link
531	Biomolecules	Primer
		n. A short strand of RNA or DNA that serves as a starting point for DNA synthesis. It is required for DNA replication because the enzymes that catalyze this process can only add new nucleotides to an existing strand of DNA.
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Primer (molecular_biology)
237	Biomolecules	Promoter
		n. The DNA sequence where RNA transcription begins. Protein factors recognize this sequence and recruit RNA polymerase to begin transcription.
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Promoter_(genetics)
526	Biomolecules	Recessive (Dominance)
		n. A relationship between alleles of one gene in which the effect on phenotype of one allele masks the contribution of a second allele at the same locus. Often the dominant allele codes for a protein while the recessive allele does not.
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dominance_(genetics)
520	Biomolecules	Restriction Endonuclease
		n. Also referred to as "restriction enzyme." An enzyme that cleaves DNA into fragments at or near specific recognition sites within the molecule known as "restriction sites."
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Restriction_enzyme
519	Biomolecules	Restriction Enzyme
		n. Also referred to as "restriction endonuclease." An enzyme that cleaves DNA into fragments at or near specific recognition sites within the molecule known as "restriction sites."
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Restriction_enzyme
521	Biomolecules	Restriction Fragment
		n. A DNA fragment resulting from the cutting of a DNA strand by a restriction enzyme (restriction endonuclease).
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Restriction_fragment

ID/Type/OLE		Word/Definition/Link
177	Biomolecules	Retrovirus
		n. A single-stranded, positive-sense RNA virus with a DNA intermediate.
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Retrovirus
523	Biomolecules	RFLP Analysis
		n. Refers to "Restriction Fragment Length Polymorphism." A technique that exploits variations in homologous DNA sequences.
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Restriction_fragment_length_polymorphism
238	Biomolecules	Ribosome
		n. The large RNA and protein complex that is the site of protein synthesis by the translation of the sequence in mRNA into a sequence of amino acids in the protein product.
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ribosome
239	Biomolecules	RNA
		n. Ribonucleic acid is a polymer containing bases (A, G, C, and U) that is copied from DNA during transcription. There are a variety of types of RNA in the cell which have different shapes and functions. Messenger RNA codes for proteins.
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/RNA
149	Biomolecules	RNA Polymerase (RNAP)
		n. An enzyme that produces primary transcription RNA and, thereby, promotes creation of proteins from the Messenger RNA (mRNA) template.
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/RNA_polymerase
148	Biomolecules	RNA Translation
		n. Translation is a process in which ribosomes in the cell's cytoplasm create proteins following "Transcription" of DNA to RNA.
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Translation_(biology)

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541	Biomolecules	Side Chain
		n. A chemical group attached to the core part of a molecules or the backbone of the molecule.
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Side_chain
240	Biomolecules	Sugar
		n. Any of a number of simple biomolecules containing carbon, oxygen, and hydrogen. In DNA and RNA two sugars occur, deoxyribose (DNA) and ribose (RNA - five carbon sugars that form rings and attach to the bases of DNA or RNA.
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ribose
241	Biomolecules	Thymidine
		n. Thymine when attached to deoxyribose.
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nucleoside
242	Biomolecules	Thymine
		n. One of the four bases found in DNA but NOT in RNA usually represented as "T."
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nucleobase
243	Biomolecules	Transcription
		n. The process in which the genetic information in DNA is copied into messenger RNA.
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Transcription_(biology)
245	Biomolecules	Transcriptor
		n. The term coined by the Endy Research Group to describe a molecular transistor made up of a transcription termination sequence found at the end of genes and signaling RNA polymerase to stop making mRNA.
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Transcriptor

ID/Type/OLE		Word/Definition/Link
244	Biomolecules	Translation
		n. The process in which the genetic information in messenger RNA is changed into proteins.
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Translation
246	Biomolecules	Uracil
		n. One of the four bases found in RNA but NOT in DNA, usually represented as "U."
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nucleobase
247	Biomolecules	Uridine
		n. Uracil when attached to ribose.
		https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nucleoside