

**INTRO: BIOLOGY ROOT WORDS**

During this course, you will come across some strange words. The reason many of them will sound unfamiliar is that they often come from Latin or Greek words. If you know what some of these words mean, you will have an easier time understanding new words as you come across them.

Root	What it means (or relates to)	Sample Word(s)
anti-	Against (opposite)	Antidepressant, antifreeze, antisocial, antivac, antibody, antibiotic, antiseptic
aqu-	Water	Aquarium, aqueous, Aquarius, aquamarine, aqua, aquatic, aqueduct
bi-, di-, dupl-, amph-	Two	Bicycle, bipolar, biracial, bilingual, Dice, dissect, diverge duplicate, duplex Amphibian, amphibious
bio-	Life/living	Biology, biodiversity, biotic, biodegradable
cardi-	Heart	Cardiovascular, cardio, cardiac arrest, cardiologist
chlor-	green	Chloroform, chlorophyll, chlorine, chloroplast, chloride
cyto-	cell	Cytoplasm, cytology
derm-	Skin	Dermatologist, epidermis, dermis
endo-	In, inside	Endoplasmic reticulum, endoscopy, endocrine, endothermic
exo-	Out, outside	Exoskeleton, exothermic, exorcist, exotic
gastr-	Stomach	Gastro-intestinal (GI), gastric juices, gastrologist
gen-	Create/creation	Genes, generate, genetics, genesis, general
hema-, hemo-	Blood	Hematoma, hemoglobin, hemophilia
hepa-	liver	Hepatitis, hepatic ducts
heter-	Different	Heterogeneous, heterozygous, heterosexual
homo-	Same	Homogenous, homozygous, homosexual, <i>Homo sapiens</i>

hydr-	water	Hydride, hydro, hydrate, hydrogen,
hyper-	More than/above (high level)	Hyperextension, hyperactive, hyperventilate, hyperdrive, hypertension
hypo-	Less than/below (low level)	Hypochondriac, hypothermia, hypoglycemia
lact-	milk	Lactose intolerant, lactate, lactic acid
lip-	Fat	Lipid, liposuction, lipase
micro-	Small	Microscope, microbiology, microorganism, microwave, microphone
mono-, uni-	One	Monotone, monocle, monopole, monorail, monopoly Unicycle, unisex, unicorn, unibrow, universe, unicellular
neph-	Kidney	Nephron, nephrologist, nephrology
ost-	bone	Osteoporosis, osteocyte
ped-, pod-	Foot/feet	Pedicure, pediatric, pedal tripod
renal-	Kidney	Renal artery, adrenal
semi-	Half	Semi-circle, semi-lunar, semi-truck, semi-conductor
sub-	Below, under	Submarine, subway (not the sandwiches), subatomic, substitute, subliminal, subarctic, submerge
therm-	heat	Thermostat, thermal, thermometer, hypothermia, thermos,
tri-	Three	Tricycle, triangle, trigonometry, triceratops, triple, triceps, tricuspid

1	Uni-, mono-	5	Pent-, quint-	9	Non-, nov-
2	Di-, bi-, dupl-, amph-	6	Hex-, sex-	10	Dec-
3	Tri-	7	Hept-, sept-	100	Cent-
4	Quad-, tetr-	8	Oct-	1000	Kilo-, milli-