

A Level Biology Curriculum Overview

AUTUMN 1 AUTUMN 2 SPRING 1 SPRING 2 SUMMER 1 SUMMER 2

Basic concepts of living systems

- Microscopy, magnification and calibration (PAG 1.1 using a light microscope)
- Eukaryotic and prokaryotic cell structure
- Plant ultrastructure .

Biological molecules

- **Biological molecules** ٠
- Carbohydrates (PAG 5.2 Determining glucose concentration and PAG 9.3 Testing for glucose)
- Structure and type of proteins
- DNA and the genetic code .

ATP .

Enzymes

- Factors affecting enzyme action (PAG 4.3 Affect the affect of ٠ temperature on amylase)
- Enxyme inhibitors .
- Cofactors, coenzymes and prosthetic groups .

Plasma membranes

- Structure and function of membranes and factors effecting ٠ them
- Diffusion, active transport and osmosis (PAG 8.1 Investigating ٠ water potential in a potato)

Neuronal communication

- Coordination, neurones and sensory receptors
- Nervous transmission and synapses
- Organisation of the nervous system
- Structure and function of the brain
- Reflexes, voluntary and involuntary muscles
- Sliding filament model ٠

Hormonal communication

- Hormonal communication .
- Structure and function of pancreas
- Regulation of blood glucose
- Controlling heart rate ٠

Energy for biological processes

- Energy cycles ٠
- **ATP** synthesis
- Photosynthesis and factors affecting this (PAG 6.3 TLC of photosynthetic pigments)

- Cell division Cell cycle Meiosis and Mitosis . Cell specialisation and stem cells . Exchange surfaces and breathing Specialised exchange surfaces . Mammalian gas exchange . Ventilation and gas exchange in other organisms (PAG 12.1 Investigation of respiration in Saccharomyces) Transport in plants Transport in dicotyledonous plants . Water transport in multicellular plants . Transpiration and translocation . Plant adaptations . Classification and evolution Classification an evidence of evolution . Types of variation and adaptations Respiration Glycolysis, Link reaction and Krebs cycle Oxidative phosphorylation Respiratory substrates ٠ Aerobic respiration (PAG 11.1 Exercise and pulse rate) Homeostasis Thermoregulation ٠ Excretion, homeostasis and liver Structure and function of the kidney Urine and kidney failure .
- Commercial use of plant hormones Genetics of living systems Mutation and variation Control of gene expressions
- Patterns of inheritance ٠

Tropism

- Variation and inheritance
- Dihybrid inheritance Phenotypic ratios ٠
- Evolution

Plant responses

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Transport in animals

- Transport in multicellular animals
- Blood, tissue fluid and lymph .
- Oxygen and carbon dioxide transport

The heart (PAG 2.1 - Dissection of mammalian heart) . Biodiversity

- Sampling and techniques .
- Calculating biodiversity (PAG 3.1 Calculating species diversity)
- Factors affecting biodiversity
- Reasons to maintain biodiversity

Communicable diseases

- Animal and plant pathogens and diseases
- Transmission of communicable diseases .
- Defences against disease in plants and animals .
- Immune system .
- Prevention and treating of disease (PAG 7.1 Effects on antibiotics on microbial growth)

Plant hormones and growth Plant responses to abiotic stress

Manipulating genomes

- DNA profiling, sequencing and analysis
- Genetic engineering
- Gene technology and ethics
- Cloning and biotechnology
- Natural and artificial cloning
- Microorganisms and biotechnology Medicines and bioremediation (PAG
- 10.2 Turbidity)
- Culturing microorganisms
- Using Immobilised enzymes
- Ecosystems

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- Biomass transfer through ecosystem
- Recycling within ecosystems
- Succession ٠
- Measuring distribution and abundance
- Populations and sustainability
- Population size, competition
- Predator-prey relationship
- Conservation, preservation and sustainability

Ecosystem management- case studies REVISION

