

Y11 Transition to Biology A-Level

Firstly, thank you for considering A-Level Biology. It is, in my (slightly biased) opinion, the most interesting subject you can study as it gives you an insight into the wonderfully complex and fascinating way in which living things work, and how they interact with each other and their environment. Below is a list of some tasks which should whet your appetite for studying Biology further. We also have a Team set up to discuss these tasks with other aspiring Biologists and all of the Biology staff. To join this, log into your teams, click the link 'join or create a team' and enter this code **yk7w7ef**

1. **Read** this article in which evolutionary biologist Barbara Natterson-Horowitz and writer Kathryn Bowers make the case for why parents — animal *and* human — should remain involved in the lives of their full-grown offspring. [Humans aren't the only ones that help out their adult kids](#)
2. **Read** this article from marine scientist Roger Hanlon. In it he explores how the heck colour-blind cephalopods — octopus, squid and others — achieve such a good colour match when they camouflage (in short: amazing, distributed brains). [Oddballs with high-level intelligence: a Q & A with Roger Hanlon about the amazing octopus](#)
3. **Listen** to this radio programme which explores all sorts of science-related topics (including the Coronavirus) [BBC Inside Science](#)
4. **Watch** this TED talk which examines the pharmaceutical industry and its impact on doctors and the wider medical world. [What doctors don't know about the drugs they prescribe](#)
5. **Watch** this TED talk which examines how your gut microbes affect your health. [How the gut microbes you're born with affect your lifelong health](#)
6. **Watch** these TED talks from Bill Gates in 2015 and again in 2020 which looks at what we can learn from the Ebola outbreak and compare it to how the world has reacted to the Covid-19 outbreak. [The next outbreak? We're not ready \(2015\)](#) & [How we must respond to the coronavirus pandemic](#)
7. **Choose** an article from <http://www.sciencedaily.com> Write down 5 questions you have after reading the article.
8. **Discuss** how you would determine if a newspaper article on a scientific topic is a reliable source of information.
9. **Choose** a controversial topic in science and **explain** the ethical and moral issues surrounding it
10. **Complete** this course which is an entertaining and illuminating exploration into the impact dentistry has on our lives. [Discover Dentistry](#)
11. **Complete** this course, which aims to demystify the ageing process, and learn how our everyday behaviours are likely to affect our long-term musculoskeletal health. [The science of staying active in old age](#)
12. **Complete** this course in which you will learn how the body uses DNA as a blueprint [DNA as a Blueprint](#)
13. **Complete** this course which is ideal for anyone considering working in residential care homes or nursing. You will also learn about the 6 'Rs' of medicine administration: right patient, right medicine, right route, right dose, right time and resident's right to refuse. [Understand the key principles of medicine administration](#)