

## ROOTS, PREFIXES AND SUFFIXES USED IN BIOLOGY

| RPS           | Definition         | RPS           | Definition        | RPS         | Definition           | RPS                  | Definition            | RPS           | Definition              |
|---------------|--------------------|---------------|-------------------|-------------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|---------------|-------------------------|
| A, an         | Without, lack      | Auto          | Self, same        | Circum      | Around               | Epi                  | On, at, beside        | Homo, homeo   | Same                    |
| Ab            | From, away from    | Av            | Bird              | Clast       | To break             | Equ                  | Equal, horse          | Homo, homin   | Man                     |
| Abdomen       | belly              | Bacillo       | A little sick     | Cloac       | Sewer                | Erythro              | Red                   | Homolog       | Agreeing                |
| Abscis        | Cut off            | Bacter        | Small rod         | Cnid        | Stinging nettle      | Esophag              | Gullet                | Hydro         | Water                   |
| Absol         | Perfect, complete  | Baro          | Pressure          | Co          | Together, with       | -e, -ette            | Little, small         | Hyper         | Above, excessive        |
| Abts          | bottomless         | Basid         | Pedestal          | Coagul      | Curdle               | Eu                   | True                  | Hypo          | Below, not enough       |
| -acanth       | Thorn, spine       | Benth         | Depth, bottom     | Cocci       | Berry, seed          | Ex                   | Out                   | -ia, lasis    | Disease, infestation    |
| Acid          | Sour, tart         | Bi            | Two, twice        | Coel        | Cavity               | Facilit              | Easy to do            | -iasis        | Abnormal condition      |
| Actino        | Ray, star-like     | Bio           | Life              | Colla       | Glue                 | Feli                 | Cat                   | Ichthys       | Fish                    |
| Ad, af        | Near, toward       | Blast, blasto | Germinate, form   | Com, con    | With, together       | Fem                  | Thigh                 | -ide          | Chemical compound       |
| Adapt         | To fit             | Botan         | Grass, herb       | Compo       | To put together      | -fer                 | Bear, carry           | -idium        | Little                  |
| Addict        | Devoted, compelled | Bov           | Cow               | Contra      | Opposite, against    | Fil                  | Thread                | Ign           | Fire                    |
| Adher         | To stick to        | Brachi        | Arm               | Coroll      | Little crown         | Filli                | Fem                   | ile           | Twisted                 |
| Adipo         | fat                | Brachy        | Short             | Corpus      | Body                 | Filla                | Daughter              | Immun         | Free, safe              |
| Adventit      | foreign            | Branchi       | Gills             | Cortex      | Outer part, shell    | Fin                  | End                   | Incis         | Cut into                |
| Aero          | Air, oxygen        | Bronch        | Windpipe          | Costa       | Rib                  | Flagell              | Whip                  | Infer         | Below                   |
| Aesthes       | feeling            | Byo           | Moss              | Cox         | Hip                  | Flor, floresc        | Flower, blooming      | Infra         | Below, beneath          |
| Agglutin      | Glued together     | Bucc          | Cheek, mouth      | Crista      | Crest, ridge         | Foli                 | Leaf                  | Inter         | Between, among          |
| Agri          | field              | Bulim         | Hunger            | Crypto      | Hidden               | -form, formes        | Having form of        | Intra         | Within, inside          |
| Al            | wing               | Cadaver       | Dead body         | -cule       | Small                | Foss                 | Ditch, to dig up      | Intro         | Entrance                |
| -al           | Pertaining to      | Caec, cec     | Blind end         | Cut, cuti   | Skin                 | Frat                 | Brother               | Ion           | To go, to wander        |
| Alb           | Albino, white      | Callo         | Hard skin         | Cyano       | Blue-green           | Fung                 | Mushroom              | -ism          | The process of          |
| Ailment       | food               | Calor         | Heat              | Cyst        | Capsule, sac         | Galax, galacto       | Milk                  | Iso           | Equal, same             |
| Alkalo        | Basic, alkaline    | cani          | Dog               | Cylo, cyte  | Cell                 | Gam                  | Unit of sexual fusion | -itis         | Inflammation            |
| All, allo     | Other, different   | Capit, capit  | Head              | De          | Take away, remove    | Ganglion             | Swelling, enlargement | Junct         | To join                 |
| Allel         | Of one another     | Capill        | Hair, minute tube | Decidu      | To fall off          | Gastro               | Stomach               | Juven         | Youth                   |
| Alveolus      | Cavity, socket     | Carap         | Shell, covering   | Dendr       | Tree                 | Gen                  | Producing, origin     | Karyo         | Nucleus, nut            |
| Ambi          | Both, around       | Carcino       | Cancer            | Dent, don't | Tooth                | Genitus              | Born                  | Kerat         | Horny tissue            |
| Ambul         | walk               | Cardinal      | Red, principal    | Derm        | Skin                 | Geo                  | Earth                 | Kin           | Motion                  |
| Amoeb         | change             | Cardio        | Heart             | Di          | Two                  | Gleno                | Socket, eyeball       | Labi          | Lip                     |
| Amphi         | Both, double       | Cari          | Decay             | Dia         | Through, across      | Gluco, glyco, glycer | Sugar                 | Lacri         | Tears, weeping          |
| Amyl          | starch             | Cam           | Flesh             | Diem        | Day                  | Gram                 | Written record        | Lac, lacto    | Milk                    |
| An            | lack               | Carp          | Fruit, wrist      | Diffus      | Move apart           | Graph                | Writing               | Lamell, lamin | Small, thin plate       |
| Ana           | Up, against, anew  | Caryo         | Nucleus of cell   | Dino        | Terrible, whirling   | Gravi, gravid        | Pregnant              | Lateral       | Side                    |
| Anat          | To cut up          | Cata          | Decomposition     | Diplo       | Double, twofold      | Gust                 | Taste                 | -let          | Small                   |
| Andro         | male               | Caus          | To bum            | Dis         | Apart from, negative | Gymno                | Naked                 | Leuco, leuko  | White                   |
| Angio         | Vessel, seed case  | Cauda         | Tail              | Domin       | Ruling               | Gyno                 | Woman                 | Lign          | Wood                    |
| annu          | year               | Cav, cavit    | Hollow            | Dorm        | To sleep             | Habitat              | To live in            | Linn          | Marsh, lake             |
| Annul         | ring               | Cell, cellul  | Small room        | Dors, dorsi | Back                 | Halo                 | Salt, sea             | Lingu         | Tongue                  |
| Ante          | Before, prior to   | Cephalo       | Head              | Duc, duct   | Lead                 | Haplo                | Single, simple        | Lipos         | Fat                     |
| Anth          | A flower           | Cereb         | Brain             | Dyn         | Power                | Helio                | Sun                   | Litho         | Stone                   |
| Anthrop       | Man, human         | Cervical      | Neck              | Dys         | Bad                  | Helic, helix         | Spiral, coil          | Littor        | The seashore            |
| Anti          | Against, opposite  | Cet           | Whale             | Echino      | Spiny                | Helminth             | Worm                  | Loc, loca     | Place, position         |
| Append        | Hand to, addition  | Cheli, chela  | Claw              | Eco         | Household            | Hemi                 | Half                  | -logy         | Study of                |
| Aqua          | Water              | Chloro        | Green             | Ecto        | Outer                | Hemo, hemat, haem    | Blood                 | Luna          | Moon                    |
| Arbor, arbu   | Tree               | Choano        | Funnel            | Ectomy      | Removal, cut out     | Herb                 | Non-woody plant       | -lysis        | Dissolving              |
| Archae        | Ancient, first     | Chromo        | Color             | -el, -elle  | Small                | Hepato               | Liver                 | Lyso          | Release, burst, destroy |
| Arachn        | Spider             | Chondr        | Cartilage         | Embol       | Stopper, wedge       | Herpeto              | Reptile               | Macro         | Large                   |
| Arthr, arthro | Joint              | Chor, chori   | Membrane          | -emia       | Blood                | Hetero               | Outer, different      | Mal           | Bad                     |
| -ase          | Enzyme             | Chronos       | Time              | Emul        | To milk              | Hibern               | Winter                | Mandibul      | Jaw                     |
| Astr          | Star               | Chryso        | Golden            | Endo        | Inner, within        | Hirud                | Leech                 | Mania         | Madness                 |
| Aur           | Ear                | Cide          | Kill              | Enter       | Intestine            | Histo                | Tissue                | Marsup        | Purse, pouch            |
| Aureo         | golden             | Cili          | Hair              | Entom       | Insect               | Holo                 | Whole, entire         | Mastig        | whip                    |