

Name: _____

Date: _____

Characteristics of Life Notes

What is Biology? Biology is _____.

What does a biologist do? Biologists study the _____ of living things with other living things and their _____.

A few examples of different branches of biology:

- Zoology: the study of _____
- Botany: the study of _____
- Ichthyology: the study of _____
- Microbiology: the study of _____

The study of life ranges from the very _____ single celled organisms to extremely complex _____ cellular organisms, but all living things, no matter how simple or complex, share the following eight characteristics:

Characteristic #1: All living things are made up of units called _____.

Characteristic #2: All living things _____ (either asexually - ____ parent or sexually - ____ parents).

Characteristic #3: All living things are based on a _____ genetic code called _____ (or deoxyribonucleic acid).

Characteristic #4: All living things _____ and _____ (within an organisms lifetime)

Characteristic #5: All living things obtain and use _____.

Characteristic #6: All living things _____ to their _____.

Characteristic #7: All living things maintain a _____ internal environment in a process called _____.

Characteristic #8: All living things _____ or change over time. This occurs over _____ generations over a long period of time.

Name: Key _____

Date: _____

Characteristics of Life Notes

What is Biology? Biology is the study of life.

What does a biologist do? Biologists study the interactions of living things with other living things and their environment.

A few examples of different branches of biology:

- Zoology: the study of animals
- Botany: the study of plants
- Ichthyology: the study of fish
- Microbiology: the study of microscopic organisms

The study of life ranges from the very simple single celled organisms to extremely complex multi cellular organisms, but all living things, no matter how simple or complex, share the following eight characteristics:

Characteristic #1: All living things are made up of units called cells.

Characteristic #2: All living things reproduce (either asexually - one parent or sexually - two parents).

Characteristic #3: All living things are based on a universal genetic code called DNA (or deoxyribonucleic acid).

Characteristic #4: All living things grow and develop (within an organisms lifetime)

Characteristic #5: All living things obtain and use energy.

Characteristic #6: All living things respond to their environment.

Characteristic #7: All living things maintain a stable internal environment in a process called homeostasis.

Characteristic #8: All living things evolve or change over time. This occurs over many generations over a long period of time.