

Exploring Creation With General Science

Table of Contents

MODULE #1: A Brief History of Science 1

Introduction	1
The First Inklings of Science (From Ancient Times to 600 B.C.)	1
True Science Begins to Emerge (600 B.C. to 500 A.D.)	3
Experiment 1.1: Density in Nature.....	4
Experiment 1.2: Atomic Motion	6
Three Other Notable Greek Scientists.....	8
The Progress Of Science Stalls For A While (500 A.D. To 1000 A.D.).....	12
Experiment 1.3: A Chemical Reaction.....	12
Science Begins To Pick Up Steam (1000 A.D. To 1500 A.D.)	16
The Renaissance: The “Golden Age” Of Science (1500 A.D. To 1660 A.D.)	18
“Experiment” 1.4: Mapping the Paths of the Planets.....	20
The Era of Newton (1660 A.D. to 1735 A.D.).....	23
The “Enlightenment” and the Industrial Revolution (1735 A.D. to 1820 A.D.)	24
The Rest of the Nineteenth Century (1820 A.D. to 1900 A.D.).....	26
Modern Science (1900 A.D. to the Present).....	29
Summing It Up	31

MODULE #2: Scientific Inquiry 35

Introduction	35
What Science is NOT	35
Experiment 2.1: How Does Weight Affect the Speed at Which Objects Fall?.....	35
Experiment 2.2: Learning More About Weight and the Speed at Which Objects Fall.....	36
The Scientific Method	40
Experiment 2.3: The Broken Flashlight	42
Failures of the Scientific Method	44
The Limitations of Science	48
Science and Christianity	49

MODULE #3: How to Analyze and Interpret Experiments 59

Introduction	59
Experiments and Variables.....	59
Experiment 3.1: A Floating Egg?.....	60
Using A Series Of Experiments	64
Experiment 3.2: Which "Boat" Will Move?	64
Experiment 3.3: What Does Soap Do To Water? - Part 1.....	66
Experiment 3.4: What Does Soap Do To Water? - Part 2.....	67
Recognizing Experimental Variables When They Are Not Obvious	70
Interpreting the Results of Experiments.....	74

MODULE #4: Science, Applied Science, and Technology..... 83

Introduction	83
The Distinction Between Science, Applied Science, and Technology	83
Simple Machines	87
The Lever	87
Experiment 4.1: The Lever.....	87
The Wheel And Axle.....	93
The Pulley	95
Experiment 4.2: A Simulaton of Using Multiple Pulleys	96
The Inclined Plane.....	99
The Wedge	100
The Screw.....	101

MODULE #5: The History of Life – Archaeology, Geology, and Paleontology 109

Introduction	109
How Do We Learn About the History of Life?.....	109
Archaeology and History	110
The Internal Test	114
The External Test	118
The Bibliographic Test.....	122
Archaeology in the Absence of Historical Documents	124
Relative Dating and the Principle of Superposition	128
What Do We Know About Human History?.....	130

MODULE #6: Foundations of Geology 135

Introduction	135
Soil, Rocks, and Minerals	137
Experiment 6.1: "Growing" Crystals.....	138
Strata In Sedimentary Rock.....	140
Experiment 6.2: Separation of Sedimentation.....	142
Weathering Of Rocks	144
Experiment 6.3: Phyiscal Weathering: The Power of Plants	144
Experiment 6.4: Chemical Weathering	145
Erosion	147
Experiment 6.5: Erosion.....	148
Bringing It All Together: The Basic Structure of the Grand Canyon	152

MODULE #7: The Fossil Record 159

Introduction	159
The Making of Fossils Part 1: Casts and Molds.....	159
Experiment 7.1: Making a Fossil Cast	160
The Making Of Fossils Part 2: Petrification.....	162
Experiment 7.2: Minerals in Water and Evaporation.....	162
The Making Of Fossils Part 3: Carbonized Remains	164
Experiment 7.3: A Model of the Carbonization Process.....	165
The Making of Fossils Part 4: Avoiding Decomposition.....	166
Three General Features of the Fossil Record	168
A Fourth General Feature of the Fossil Record	172
Geology and Paleontology from the Uniformitarian Perspective	174
Geology and Paleontology From the Catastrophist Perspective	177
Uniformitarianism or Catastrophism: Which View Is Correct?.....	180

MODULE #8: Uniformitarianism and Catastrophism 185

Introduction	185
Uniformitarianism and the Geological Record	185
“Experiment” 8.1: A Simulation of Using Index Fossils to Order Rock Layers	186
Uniformitarianism and Evolution.....	191
Catastrophism and the Geological Record	194
Catastrophism and the Fossil Record	199
Uniformitarianism or Catastrophism: Which Is Better?	203
Evolution: Can It Provide Evidence for Uniformitarianism?.....	208

MODULE #9: What Is Life? 215

Introduction	215
DNA and Life	215
The Structure of DNA	218
Experiment 9.1: Building a Model of DNA.....	220
Energy And Life	223
Experiment 9.2: Finding Food in Plants.....	223
Experiment 9.3: A Simple "Self-Sustaining" System	225
Sensing And Responding To Change.....	227
Experiment 9.4: Sensing and Responding to Change	228
Reproduction And Life.....	229
Experiment 9.5: Fruit Fly Reproduction	230
The Cell: Life’s Smallest Unit	234

MODULE #10: Classifying Life 241

Experiment 10.1 - Part 1: Factors that Affect Bacterial Growth.....	241
Introduction	241
The Five-Kingdom System	243
Kingdom Monera	245
Experiment 10.1 - Part 2: Factors that Affect Bacterial Growth.....	247
Kingdom Protista.....	250
Kingdom Fungi.....	252
Experiment 10.2: Yeast is a Decomposer	255
Kingdom Plantae	256
Experiment 10.3: Vegetative Reproduction	256
Experiment 10.4: Turgor Pressure	258
Kingdom Animalia	260

MODULE #11: The Human Body: Fearfully and Wonderfully Made 265

Introduction	265
The Superstructure of the Human Body.....	265
Bones	267
Experiment 11.1: Minerals in Bone	267
Skeletons In Other Organisms.....	271
Skeletal Muscles.....	273
Smooth Muscle And The Cardiac Muscle	279
Muscles And Movement In Other Organisms.....	281
Experiment 11.2: Phototropism and Gravitropism	281
Skin.....	282
Experiment 11.3: Skin Color.....	286
Skin in Other Organisms	287
Summary	288

MODULE #12: Energy and Life 293

Introduction	293
Life's Energy Cycle	293
How Do Organisms Get Energy From Food?	296
Experiment 12.1: What Combustion Needs	297
Experiment 12.2: The Products of Combustion	299
What Actually Gets Burned For Energy?	302
Energy Use In The Body	306
Experiment 12.3: Body Temperature	307
Calories and Food.....	308
Metabolic Rates Throughout Creation	310
How Combustion Works in Living Organisms	312

MODULE #13: The Human Digestive System.....319

Introduction	319
The Process of Digestion.....	319
Experiment 13.1: Seeing a Part of the Digestive Process	319
The Human Digestive System.....	320
The Mouth, Pharynx, And Esophagus	323
The Stomach And The Small Intestine.....	326
Experiment 13.2: Stomach Acid and Antacids	327
No, It's Not Useless!	332
The Liver, Pancreas, And Gall Bladder	333
Experiment 13.3: The Effect of Sodium Bicarbonate on Stomach Acid	335
The Micronutrients	337

MODULE #14: The Human Respiratory and Circulatory Systems.....343

Introduction	343
The Human Circulatory System.....	343
The Heart and Blood Flow	347
Experiment 14.1: Measuring Your Own Cardiac Cycle	350
The Components Of Blood.....	352
Lungs And Blood Oxygenation.....	355
Experiment 14.2: The Vital Capacity of Your Lungs	357
The Respiratory System	358
Experiment 14.3: A Model of Your Lungs	359
Experiment 14.4: A Model of Your Vocal Cords	361
Circulation And Respiration Throughout Creation	361
Experiment 14.5: Xylem	362

MODULE #15: The Human Lymphatic, Endocrine, and Urinary Systems367

Introduction	367
The Lymphatic System.....	367
Lymph Nodes	371
Tears	375
Experiment 15.1: Working Your Lacrimal Glands Too Hard.....	376
The Urinary System.....	377
Experiment 15.2: A Model of Kidney Function	379
The Endocrine System.....	382

MODULE #16: The Human Nervous System	387
Introduction	387
Neurons: The Basic Unit of the Nervous System	389
The Basic Layout of the Human Nervous System	393
Our “Split” Brains	398
Experiment 16.1: Determining a Person's Dominant Side	398
The Brain And Blood	400
The Peripheral Nervous System (Pns)	402
Experiment 16.2: The Pupil of the Eye	403
The Human Sense Of Taste	405
The Human Sense Of Smell	407
Experiment 16.3: The Sense of Smell and the Sense of Taste	408
The Human Sense Of Vision	409
Experiment 16.4: The Human Blind Spot	411
The Human Sense Of Touch	414
Experiment 16.5: Variation in Touch Sensitivity	415
The Human Sense of Hearing	416
Do We Really Use Only 10 Percent of our Brain?	417
Summing It All Up	418
Glossary	423
Appendix A	433
Appendix B	443
Appendix C	475
Index.....	483