

# PLATO<sup>®</sup> Biology Series

**Grade Level:** 8–12  
**Target Audience:** High School/Adult  
**Audio Support:** Yes

- Over 1200 discrete learning objectives
- Animation, narration, and interaction demonstrate biology concepts
- Audio support in the tutorial and mastery test
- Supplemented by offline study guides, quizzes, and exams
- Interactive glossary defines terms and models proper pronunciation
- Simple and consistent navigation throughout each module
- Follows National Science Foundation guidelines
- Allows learner to complete lessons sequentially or select topics in desired order
- Provides interactive tutorials to reinforce subject material
- Provides feedback in the mastery tests and graphic representation of results
- Enriches instruction with real life, problem-solving scenarios

## Online Tools

Glossary—models pronunciation of science terms and provides definitions

## Menu Icons

Play/Repeat—allows learner to play and repeat audio in the scene

Stop—allows learner to stop audio in the scene

Previous—allows learner to return to the previous scene

Next—allows learner to proceed to the next scene

Help—provides an explanation of course features and menu icons

Sound On/Off—allows learner to turn audio on or off

Jump Menu—allows learner to view a specific topic rather than advance sequentially

Exit—allows learner to stop and exit the program

## Reference Materials (Refer to PLATO Documentation CD)

PLATO Curriculum Guide—Biology

PLATO Curriculum Guide—Biology—Module Components (study guides, quizzes, comprehensive exams, answer keys, and glossary)



## Getting Started

- Refer to the Curriculum Guide—Biology to review the menu icons and identify concepts addressed in the courseware modules.
- Become familiar with the module components included in the curriculum guides.
- Select and preview a courseware module aligned to classroom instruction.
- Demonstrate a courseware module to the learners as a whole group using a projector.

## Lesson Progression

- Tutorial—introduces and teaches biology concepts (not scored).
- Application—reinforces biology concepts covered in the tutorial (scored).
- Mastery Test—includes randomly generated questions, provides immediate feedback, and shows graphic representations of results (scored).

## Assessment

- Use the mastery tests to determine placement within the courseware module.
- Use quizzes in the curriculum guide as a pretest to identify instructional needs.
- Use the comprehensive exams in the curriculum guide as a posttest to measure proficiency.
- Use a state or local assessment to further identify and prioritize instructional needs.

## Implementation Strategies

- Begin with the tutorial as a whole-group activity to introduce biology concepts.
- Encourage self-paced learning by directing learners to complete the application section independently.
- Encourage the learner to formulate questions about the biology concepts presented in the study guides.
- Use as a resource to introduce concepts, provide practice, and reinforce learning.
- Target individual learner needs by assigning selected courseware modules for remediation, reinforcement, and extension.

## Evaluation

- Design and formulate an evaluation plan that integrates the use of offline quizzes, comprehensive exams, and online mastery tests.
- Create science portfolios to further evaluate application of concepts mastered.
- Generate reports to measure student mastery and identify instructional needs.
- Evaluate and discuss report data with learner to determine the next steps.

## Extension Exercises

- Assign modules to small groups and have the learners explain the biology concepts to the whole group.
- Use the study guides in the curriculum guide as a supplemental reading assignment.
- Search for web sites that provide additional information related to the courseware modules.
- Create a customized learning path that includes web sites to enrich learning opportunities.

Curriculum  
Structure

*Curriculum*



Biology  
Series

*Course*



Introduction  
To  
Biology

*Module*



The Study  
Of Life

*Tutorial*

*Application*

*Mastery Test*

For more information, please call 800.44.PLATO or visit [www.plato.com](http://www.plato.com)

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