

Biology Research Paper Topics

Please pick one topic below for your research project. You must be committed to just one topic for this project, so make sure you do your research before picking your topic.



1. Climate Change

We hear a lot in the news about climate change, but is it all true or is it a lot of hype? Look at the *scientific claims* and the *data* that supports it to determine if climate change is real. If climate change is real, are humans a contributing factor? Are there other explanations for the data that we observe? If there are other explanations for the data we observe, what are they?

Note: This is not an opinion paper based off of what you hear politicians, news media, Christian talk radio, or other like resources saying about the topic. Nor is this the right spot for you to address your eschatological beliefs of the future of this earth. You need to look at and address the *scientific claims* as they stand using *scientific resources*.



2. Animal Consciousness

Do animals have a non-material existence to go along with their physical bodies (such as consciousness, self-awareness, and/or emotions) or is that just something that makes humans unique? Take a look at the claims that certain animals such as bottlenose dolphins, great apes, and elephants (to name a few) have self-awareness. What *scientific* support is given for these claims? If the claims are true, are there any implications? Is there another *scientific* explanation for what we observe?

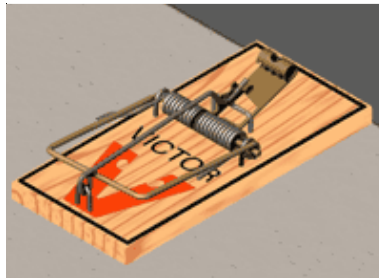
Note: It may be particularly helpful to look at research surrounding Koko the Gorilla.



3. Wolves and Yellowstone Ecology

How has the re-introduction of wolves to Yellowstone National Park affected the ecosystem? How have various organisms been affected in their particular niches and/or how have their behaviors changed as a result of the re-introduction of the wolves? Is there controversy over the wolf re-introduction? If so, what is it and how could it be solved?

Note: This is primarily a paper on how the re-introduction of the wolf to the Yellowstone ecosystem has affected that ecosystem using *scientific observations* and *data*. This is not a paper that is primarily concerned with the economic concerns of ranchers in the area or their feelings about “the big bad wolf”.



4. Intelligent Design

Intelligent Design has been in the news a lot lately as the controversy heats up over whether or not it is a legitimate scientific pursuit that asks legitimate scientific questions. In this paper, I want you to discuss what Intelligent Design is and what its claims are. Is Intelligent Design religious in nature or is it asking purely scientific questions? What evidence is there for Intelligent Design and what evidence is there against Intelligent Design?

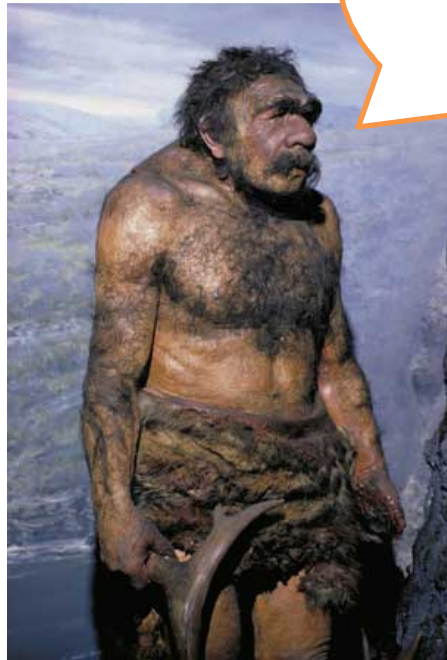
Note: Do *not* mix up intelligent design with creationism for this assignment. They are *not* the same thing.



5. Neanderthal Man

Who was the Neanderthal Man (also spelt Neandertal)? In evolutionist's circles, Neanderthal Man was either a direct ancestor of modern Europeans or an evolutionary side track. Christians have had to take a stance on who or what Neanderthal Man was. Based on the *archaeological* and *biological* evidence only, was the Neanderthal just another hominid, was he an ancestor to modern man, or was Neanderthal Man just as human as you and I?

Note: You are to use scientific observations and evidence only in your discussion of Neanderthal man. This is not the place to give personal beliefs based off of what you do or don't believe the Bible might say about them (i.e. you are not to use scripture or scriptural arguments in your paper).



I wish my teacher cared enough to assign me a research paper. I would be much better off now. Do a good job kids, so that you don't end up like me.