

Biology Week mini quiz

Answers

The Society of Biology, along with its Member Organisations, has created quizzes for schools, universities and pubs. These are free to use for anyone wishing to organise a biology quiz. Please [get in touch](#) if you would like a copy.

Question	Answer
Which ocean dwelling animal has grown an 'extra arm' which it uses as a detachable penis?	<p>The Argonaut octopus.</p> <p>When a female swims by, the lazy male Argonaut sends his penis off to swim to the female and mate with her. In the past, scientists that caught female specimens confused the attached males penis for a parasitic worm.</p> <p>Find out more on our website.</p>
How do honey bees communicate with each other?	By dancing (and producing chemical scents called pheromones)
Scientists have discovered that injecting trees with which loved food, might help save them from deadly diseases?	<p>Garlic.</p> <p>Garlic is one of nature's most powerful antibacterial and antifungal agents.</p> <p>Oak trees with 'acute oak decline' - which eventually kills the tree - have improved after being treated. It's been found in the lab that an ingredient in garlic (allicin) kills the pathogen responsible for ash dieback.</p> <p>Find out more on the plant science website.</p>
Which of these species has the greatest number of genes; Humans, mice or rice?	<p>Rice (50,900 genes) Humans have 23,600 genes and mice have 23,100 genes.</p> <p>What are genes? DNA contains the instructions for living organisms, and genes are segments of DNA. Each gene codes for the production of a specific protein. Proteins are important because they build bones, enable muscles to move, control digestion and aid lots of other important processes.</p> <p>Why does rice have so many genes compared to humans? Humans and animals have a method of producing several proteins from a limited number of genes, whereas plants can only copy their genes and interfere with them in a limited way in order to produce new proteins.</p>

<p>How many bacteria reside, on average, in one single teaspoon of soil?</p>	<p>1 billion bacteria, along with 120,000 fungi and 25,000 algae.</p> <p>The average teaspoon of soil contains 5,000 different types of bacteria, thousands of species of fungi and algae, as well as mites and termite species.</p> <p>However, in the average human mouth there are over 700 distinct species including bacteria, fungi and viruses.</p>
<p>Which animal is faster than a horse, can go for longer without water than camel and can see behind without moving its head?</p>	<p>A giraffe.</p>

Thank you for helping us celebrate Biology week 2014!

Let us know how you got on: [email](#) us or tweet [@Society_Biology](#) [#BiologyWeek](#)