

Scientific Root Words and Prefixes

Memorize the first two columns only. The examples will not be on the quiz.

Root Word or Prefix	Definition	Example
1. amphi-	both	amphibian
2. bio-	life, living	biosphere
3. endo-	in, into, within	endothermic change
4. ex-	out of; away from	exothermic change
5. geo-	land, earth	geosphere
6. gymno-	naked; bare	gymnosperm
7. homo-	same; alike	homozygous
8. hetero-	different; other	heterozygous
9. multi-	many	multicellular
10. photo-	light	photosynthesis
11. -sperm	seed	gymnosperm
12. -spher-	ball, round	biosphere
13. spir-	breathe	respiration
14. sub-	under, below	subduction
15. therm-	heat	thermal
16. uni-	one	unicellular
17. zyg-	joined together	zygote