

Biological Root Words

	Root(Source)	Meaning	Example
1	a, an (G)	without, not	abiotic, anaerobic
2	ambi (L)	on both sides	ambidextrous, ambivalent
3	amphi (G)	both, doubly	amphibian, amphiblastula
4	andro (G)	male, masculine	androgen, android
5	ante (L)	before, in front of	antedate, anterior
6	anti (G)	against	antibody, antigen
7	aqua (L)	water	aqueous, aquifer
8	archeo (G)	original, ancient	archeology, archebacteria
9	arthro (G)	joint	arthritis, arthropod
10	auto (G)	self	automatic, autonomic
11	bi (L)	two, twice, double	bilateral, bipedal, bivalve
12	bio (G)	life, living	biogenesis, biology
13	cephalo (L)	head	cephalic, cephalothorax
14	chromo (G)	color	chromatin, chromosome
15	cide (L)	killer, killing	insecticide, pesticide
16	circum, circa (L)	around, about	circadian, circumference
17	corpus (L)	body	corpus luteum, corpuscles
18	crypto (G)	hidden	cryptic, cryptorchidism
19	cyte, cyto (G)	cell, hollow	cytoplasm, leukocyte
20	derm, dermis (G)	skin	dermal, Echinodermata
21	di (G)	two, double	dihybrid, disaccharide
22	dys (G)	bad	dysentery, dystrophy
23	e, ex (L)	out of, from	emit, excretion, extinction
24	ecto (G)	outside of,	ectoparasite, ectoplasm
25	endon, endo (G)	in, internal	endoderm, endosperm
26	epi (G)	upon, above	epidermis, epiphyte
27	erythros (G)	red	erythrocyte
28	exo (G)	outer, external	exoskeleton, exothermic
29	gam, gamo (G)	marriage, sexual	gamete, gametophyte
30	genesis, genic (L)	origin, producing	carcinogenic, cytogenic,
31	genos, gen (G)	race, kind	genetics, genotype
32	herba (L)	grass, plants	herbal, herbivore
33	heteros (G)	different, other	heterotroph, heterozygous
34	homo (G)	alike, same	homologous, homozygous
35	hydro (G)	water	hydrology
36	hyper (G)	above, beyond	hyperactive, hypertonic
37	hypo (G)	below, under	hypodermic, hypotonic
38	intra (L)	within, inside	intracellular

39	intro (L)	into, within	introversion
40	itis (G)	inflammation	appendicitis, arthritis
41	logos, logy (G)	the study of	biology, zoology
42	lys, lysis (L)	destruction	hydrolysis, lysosome
43	micro (G)	small	microbe, microscope
44	monos (G)	one, single	monocular, monocotyledon
45	morphe (G)	form, shape	ectomorph, morphology
46	neuro (G)	nerve	neurology, neuromuscular
47	oo (G)	beginning, egg	oocyte, oogenesis
48	ovum, ovi (L)	egg	ovary, oviduct, ovule
49	para (G)	beside, near	paramedic, parasite
50	pedi (G)	beginning, child	pediatrics, pedigree
51	ped, pod (L)	foot	bipedal, pedal
52	photo (G)	light	photosynthesis
53	poly (L)	many	polygamous, polygenetic
54	post (L)	after, behind	posterior, postpartum
55	proto (L)	first, primary	prototype, protocell
56	semi (L)	half	semicircle, semilunar
57	skleros (G)	hard	sclera, sclerenchyma,
58	soma (G)	body	centrosome, lysosome,
59	sub, sup (L)	below, under	subspecies, supination
60	super (L)	above, upper	supercerebral, superior
61	supra (L)	above, upon	supraorbital, suprarenal
62	tetra (L)	four	tetrapod, tetraspore
63	therm (L)	heat	ectotherm, thermometer
64	tox (G)	poison	antitoxin, toxic, toxin
65	trans(L)	beyond, through	transparent, translocation
66	tri (L)	three	triploid, tripod
67	trophe (G)	to feed, eat	autotroph, heterotroph
68	uni, unis (L)	one, united	unicellular, uniform,
69	xeros (G)	dry	xeric, xerophyte
70	zo, zoo (G)	animal	protozoa, zoology, zoospore
71	iso	equal	isotonic, isomer
72	deci	one tenth	deciliter
73	centi	one hundredth	centimeter
74	kilo	one thousand	kilogram
75	milli	one thousandth	millimeter