WHAT IS BIOLOGY?

Biology is the branch of pure science that studies life, that is, things that have life. As such, Biology studies various life forms even micro-life.

The studies of living things began with normal eye observation through to microscopic observation of life forms (using microscope).

Biology has found that the simplest life form is a cell and cannot be seen ordinarily with the eyes. Cells that look alike and cooperate form a tissue. Tissues that cooperate to perform a specific function form an organ. Several organs cooperate to perform a particular function and therefore form an organ system. Systems that cooperate together form an organism. The word "organism" is used to imply a living thing, that is, plant or animal. Some organisms are simply single cells while others are multicellular that is they have more than one cell. Thereafter, organisms interact with each other and their environment in such a manner that is also very important to the field of biology.

Organisation of Life

Cell → Tissue → Organ → System → Organism

We could represent the organisation of whole organisms and their interactions like this:

Organism → Population → Community → Ecosystem → Biosphere

Branches of Biology

- Cellular biology - studies cells
- Molecular biology - studies the biomolecules that make life - biochemistry and genetics.
- Botany - studies plants classically
- Zoology - studies animals classically
- Anatomy - organisational structure of living things esp. humans.
- Physiology - studies the functions of part of an organism
- Ecology - studies how living things interact with themselves and with their environment.
- Others - genetics, evolution, medicine/health.

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