

**Building Science Vocabulary**  
**"Need to Know" Latin & Greek**  
**Word Parts: Roots, Prefixes and Suffixes**

#	Root	Meaning	Example
1	a-	without	abiotic
2	ab-	away	aboral
3	amphi	both sides	amphibian
4	angio	container	angiospermae
5	anthro	human	anthropology
6	aqua	water	aquarium
7	arbor	tree	aboratum
8	archae	ancient, old	archaeology
9	aster	star	astronomy
10	avi	bird	aviary
11	basidi	pedestal	basidiomycota
12	bio	life	biology
13	bryo	swell	bryophyta
14	carni	meat	carnivore
15	cephla	head	cephalopoda
16	chiro	hand	chiropractor
17	chondro	cartilage	chondrichthyes
18	cili	small hair	ciliophora
19	circum-	around	circumference
20	corpus	body	corpuscle
21	cosmo	universe	cosmic
22	derm	skin	epidermis
23	din	whirling	sarcodina
24	diplo	double	diplopoda
25	dorm	sleep	dormant
26	echino	spiny	echinodermata
27	endo-	within	endoskeleton
28	equ-	equal	equinox
29	eu	good, new	eubacteria
30	exo	off, outside	exhale
31	gastro	stomach	gastrology
32	geo	land	geology
33	grav	heavy	gravity
34	gymno	naked	gymnospermae
35	helio	sun	heliocentric
36	helmenthes	worm	platyhelmenthes
37	hemi-	half	hemisphere
38	hetero-	different	heterozygous
39	homo-	same	homogeneous
40	hydro	water	hydrometer
41	hymen	membrane	hymenoptera
42	hyper-	over	hyperactive
43	hypo-	under	hypodermic
44	ichthy	fish	osteichthyes
45	inter-	between	interstate
46	iso-	equal	isosceles
47	litho	rock	lithosphere
48	luna	moon	lunar
49	mare	sea	marine
50	meta	change	metamorphosis

#	root	meaning	example
51	micro-	very small	microscope
52	mono	one	monoplane
53	morph	form	metamorphic
54	mycota	fungus	basidiomycota
55	nemato	thread	nematoda
56	noct	night	nocturnal
57	nucleo	nut, kernel	nucleus
58	omni-	all	omnivorous
59	oral	mouth	oral
60	ortho	straight, upright	orthopedic
61	oste	bony	osteocyte
62	paleo	ancient	paleontology
63	ped	foot	pedal
64	phillos	love	hydrophillic
65	phobo	hate	hydrophobic
66	phoro	movement	ciliophora
67	phyta	plant	chlorophyta
68	pinna	wing	pinnaped
69	platy	flat	platyhelmenthes
70	poda	foot	cephalopoda
71	poly-	many	polygon
72	post-	after	postpone
73	pre-	before	prehistoric
74	prim-	first	primary
75	pro-	forward	produce
76	ptera	wing	chiroptera
77	sarc	flesh	sarcodina
78	sci	to know	science
79	scope	to see	microscope
80	scribe	to write	inscribe
81	sed	to settle	sediment
82	semi-	half	semicircle
83	spermae	seed	sperm
84	sphere	round	spherical
85	spir	breath	respiration
86	struct	to build	construct
87	sub-	under, inferior	submarine
88	super-	above	superior
89	tele-	distant, far	telescope
90	terra	land	terrestrial
91	therm	heat	thermometer
92	tracheo	tube	trachea
93	trans-	across	transfer
94	tremato	hole	trematoda
95	trib	to give	tributary
96	valva	folding door	bivalva
97	vis	to see	visible
98	vitae	life	vital
99	volv	to roll	revolve
100	vora	to eat	carnivore

