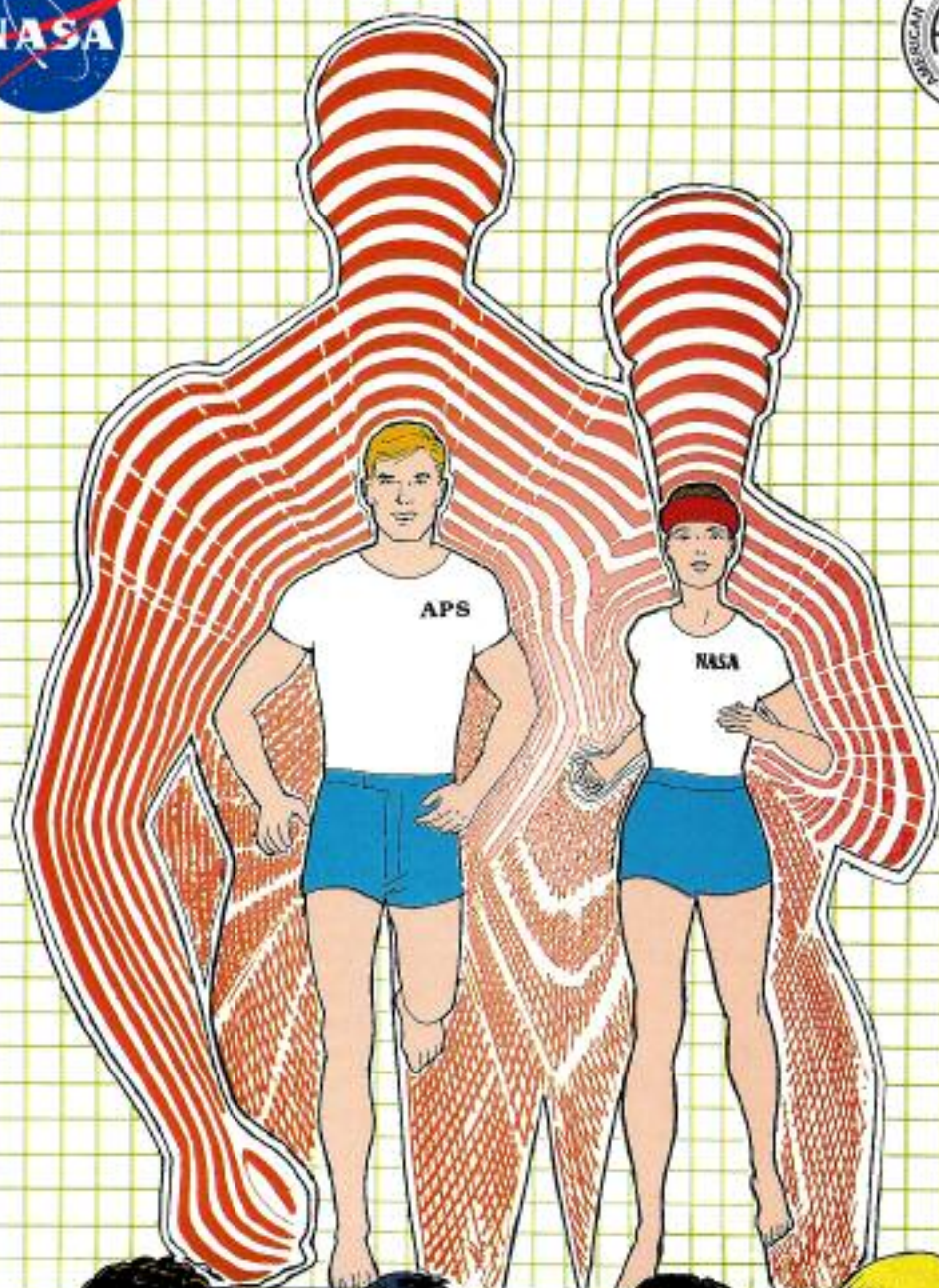
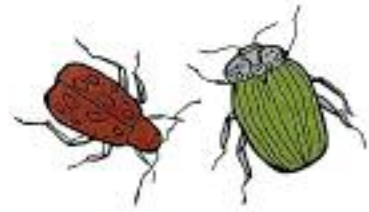
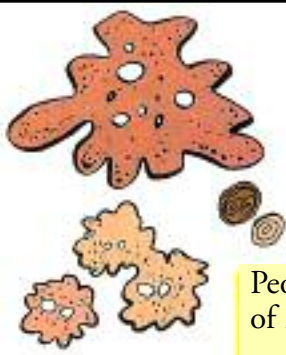


The Science Of Life

PHYSIOLOGY RESEARCH IN ACTION





People have always been fascinated by the mysteries of life. Did you ever wonder...

How does your body work?

Why do you get sick and then better?

How do the medicines you take affect different parts of your body?

How can studying animals, on earth and in space, make our lives longer and healthier?

Physiology is the science of living systems. Physiologists are scientists who study life processes in humans, animals and plants, and how our organ systems work together to keep us healthy.

Physiology research has provided information that leads to healthier and longer lives for everyone. In fact, people and animals owe their lives to the discoveries made by physiologists.

Physiologists want to find answers to questions like...

How does the body adjust to the conditions of space flight?

What factors limit an athlete's, scuba diver's, or astronaut's performance?

How do the cells in our bodies work together to keep us healthy?

As you read this book, you will learn how physiologists' work benefits people and animals. You'll also learn that physiologists have made our world a better place and that many mysteries still remain. Maybe you will choose to join the exploration of life's mysteries as a physiologist!



The Science Of Life. Sponsored and distributed by **The American Physiological Society**,
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LOOK, CHRIS! A
SUBSTITUTE TEACHER!

I HEARD MRS.
TODD HAD HER
BABY ALREADY.

SHE WASN'T
SUPPOSED TO
HAVE IT FOR
ANOTHER MONTH.

HELLO, CLASS!
I'M MRS. BARON --
I'LL BE YOUR
SUBSTITUTE BIOLOGY
TEACHER FOR THE
REST OF THE
SEMESTER.

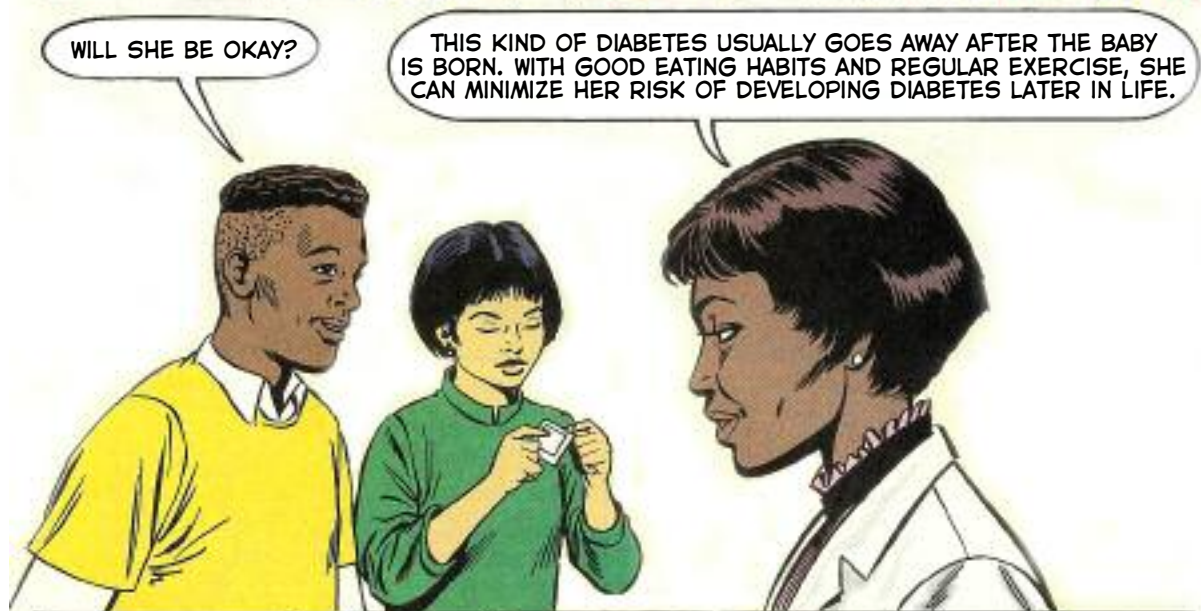
DID OUR
TEACHER
HAVE HER
BABY?

MRS. TODD'S BABY ISN'T READY
TO BE BORN YET. SHE STARTED
GOING INTO LABOR OVER THE
WEEKEND SO HER DOCTOR
SUGGESTED SHE TAKE IT EASY
FOR THE NEXT FEW WEEKS.

MRS. TODD
SAID SHE HAD
DIABETES. IS
THAT WHY THIS
HAPPENED?

NOT REALLY. SOME PEOPLE HAVE
DIABETES BECAUSE THEIR BODIES DON'T
MAKE ENOUGH **INSULIN**, WHICH IS A
CHEMICAL THAT HELPS THE CELLS IN YOUR
BODY TAKE UP FOOD. OTHER PEOPLE
BECOME DIABETIC BECAUSE THEIR BODIES
CAN'T MAKE PROPER USE OF INSULIN. A
FEW WOMEN, LIKE MRS. TODD, DEVELOP
DIABETES WHILE THEY ARE PREGNANT. BUT
DIABETES DIDN'T MAKE MRS. TODD'S
LABOR START TOO EARLY.





DURING THE LAST 20 YEARS, SCIENTISTS HAVE BEEN DOING RESEARCH WITH RATS AND OTHER ANIMALS TO UNDERSTAND HOW DIABETES AFFECTS THE ORGAN SYSTEMS OF THE BODY. **PHYSIOLOGISTS** STUDY HOW OUR ORGAN SYSTEMS WORK TOGETHER TO KEEP US HEALTHY, AND WHAT HAPPENS WHEN WE GET SICK. THEY OFTEN USE ANIMALS AS **MODELS** TO LEARN MORE ABOUT WHAT HAPPENS INSIDE THE HUMAN BODY.



MRS. BARON,
WHAT'S A
PHYSIOLOGIST?

GOOD QUESTION! THAT'S OUR TOPIC TODAY, AND YOUR HOMEWORK FOR THURSDAY IS TO DO A REPORT ON HOW PHYSIOLOGY RESEARCH TOUCHES OUR LIVES.



THAT'S A SNEAKY WAY TO
GIVE OUT HOMEWORK!

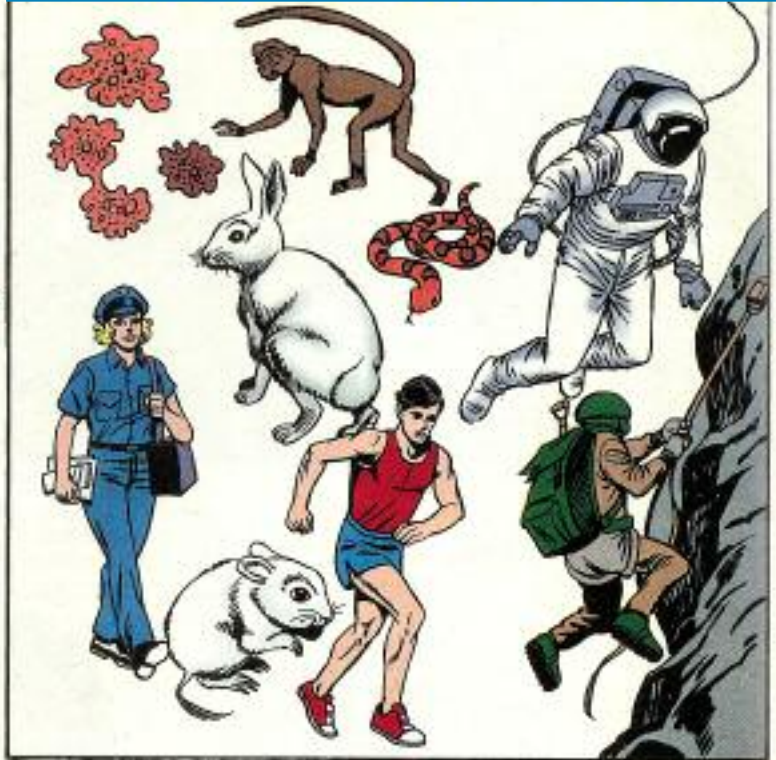
KEEP QUIET -- SHE
MIGHT GIVE US MORE!



PHYSIOLOGY IS THE STUDY OF LIFE AND HOW LIVING THINGS WORK.



PHYSIOLOGY DEALS WITH THE ACTIVITIES AND FUNCTIONS OF LIFE AND LIVING ORGANISMS, FROM PARTS OF A SINGLE CELL TO WHOLE ANIMALS.

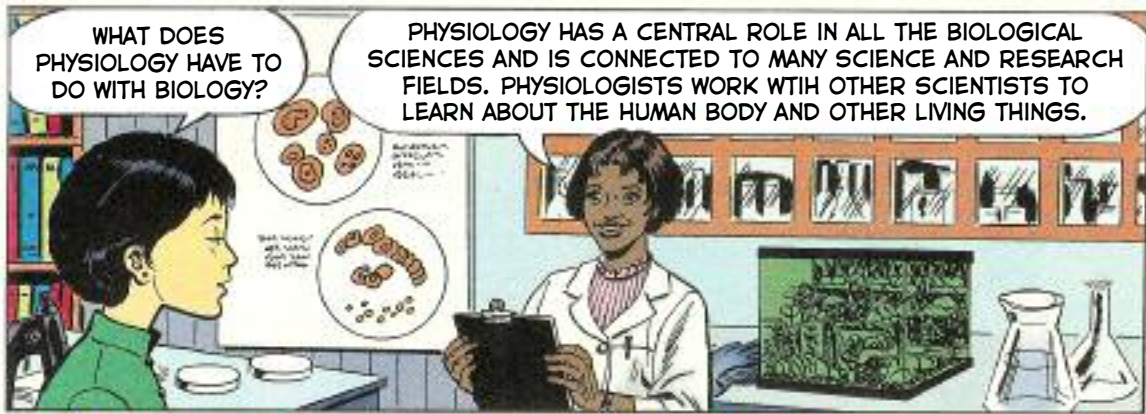


PHYSIOLOGY HELPS US UNDERSTAND *HOW* THE BODY WORKS AND HOW DISEASES, MEDICINES, AND VACCINES *AFFECT* THE BODY. MEDICAL DOCTORS CAN USE THIS INFORMATION WHEN THEY ARE TAKING CARE OF PATIENTS.

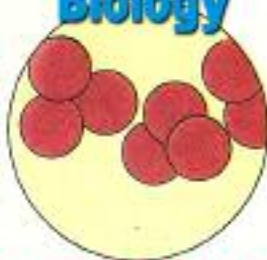


PHYSIOLOGY HELPS US UNDERSTAND WHAT *"LIFE"* IS AND HOW TO TREAT DISEASES. PHYSIOLOGY ALSO STUDIES HOW TO COPE WITH *ENVIRONMENTAL* STRESSES IMPOSED ON OUR BODIES, SUCH AS HEAT AND COLD, AND NEAR WEIGHTLESSNESS.





Molecular Biology Biochemistry Biophysics Cell Biology



Pharmacology

Medical Sciences

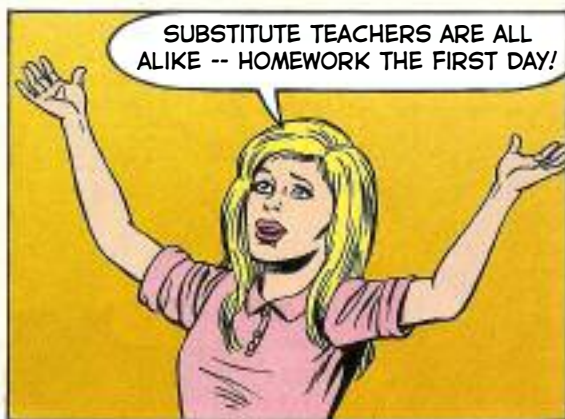
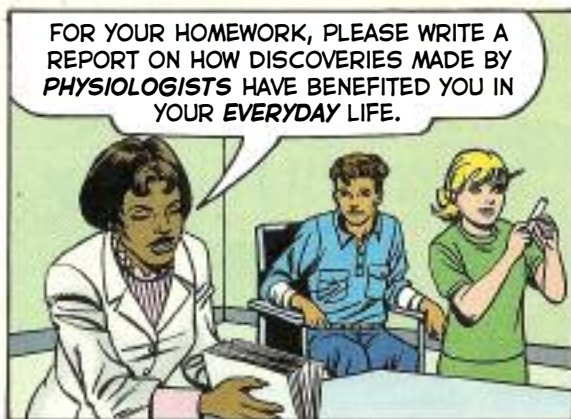
Veterinary Sciences

Gravitational and Space Biology



PHYSIOLOGISTS WANT TO FIND OUT ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS LIKE...







HOW'S YOUR KNEE TODAY, JOANNE?

BETTER, COACH. I'M MORE CAREFUL ABOUT WORKING WITH MY BODY INSTEAD OF AGAINST IT. I DON'T WANT TO RUIN MY CHANCES OF BECOMING AN ASTRONAUT.



YOU'RE RIGHT! YOU'LL NEED TO BE IN TOP SHAPE TO BE AN ASTRONAUT CANDIDATE. ASTRONAUTS NEED TO STAY FIT. PHYSIOLOGISTS HAVE FOUND THAT OUR BODIES ACTUALLY WEAKEN IN SPACE.



WOW! DO YOU MEAN OUR MUSCLES GET WEAKER? HOW DO YOU KNOW THAT?

YES, OUR MUSCLES GET WEAKER AND A LOT OF OTHER CHANGES HAPPEN, TOO. I JUST READ AN ARTICLE ABOUT SPACE PHYSIOLOGY IN ONE OF MY TEACHER JOURNALS.

SPACE PHYSIOLOGY! CAN I PLEASE BORROW YOUR JOURNAL, COACH? YOU GAVE ME A **GREAT IDEA** FOR MY REPORT!



DAD, MOM AND I ARE TAKING LUCKY TO THE VETERINARIAN FOR HER SHOTS, AND THEN STOPPING BY THE LIBRARY.

FINE, SON. I'LL HELP YOU PRACTICE YOUR DEBATE SPEECH WHEN YOU GET BACK.

WHAT KIND OF SHOT ARE YOU GIVING HER, DR. BROWN?

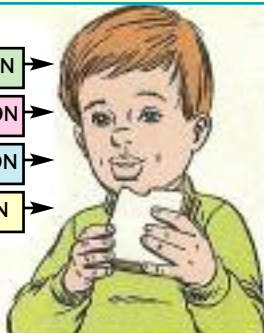
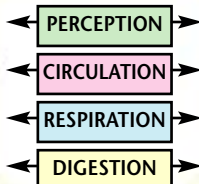
IT'S A **VACCINE** TO PREVENT LUCKY FROM GETTING FELINE LEUKEMIA.

I DIDN'T KNOW CATS GOT LEUKEMIA. IS THAT LIKE LEUKEMIA IN PEOPLE?

NOT EXACTLY, BUT MANY ANIMAL DISEASES ARE SIMILAR TO ONES THAT HUMANS ALSO GET. VETERINARIANS USE **MANY** MEDICINES ORIGINALLY DEVELOPED FOR HUMANS.

VACCINES MUST UNDERGO **EXTENSIVE** TESTING TO DETERMINE HOW WELL THEY WORK. RESEARCHERS LOOK CAREFULLY AT WHAT A MEDICATION DOES TO ALL PARTS OF THE BODY, AND **PHYSIOLOGY** IS THE STUDY OF HOW BODY'S ORGANS AND SYSTEMS WORK. DEVELOPING A VACCINE REQUIRES MUCH RESEARCH AND TESTING WITH **ANIMALS** AND **HUMANS** AND INVOLVES RESEARCHERS FROM SEVERAL FIELDS.

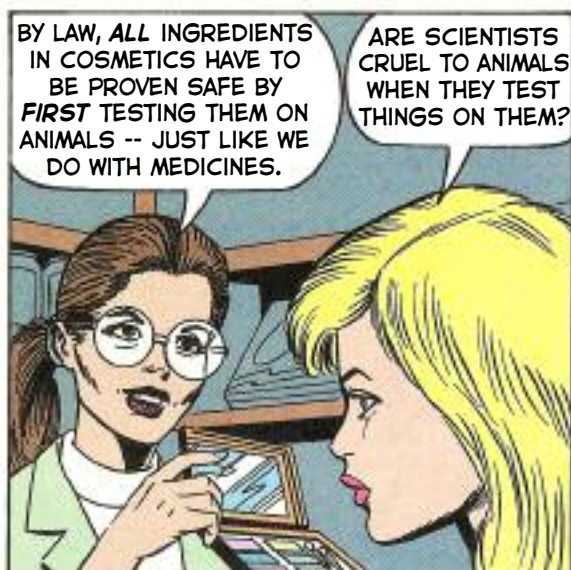
THANKS, DR. BROWN! FOR HELPING LUCKY -- AND FOR HELPING ME WITH MY **HOMEWORK**!





HERE'S YOUR GRANDMOTHER'S BLOOD PRESSURE MEDICATION, RITA!

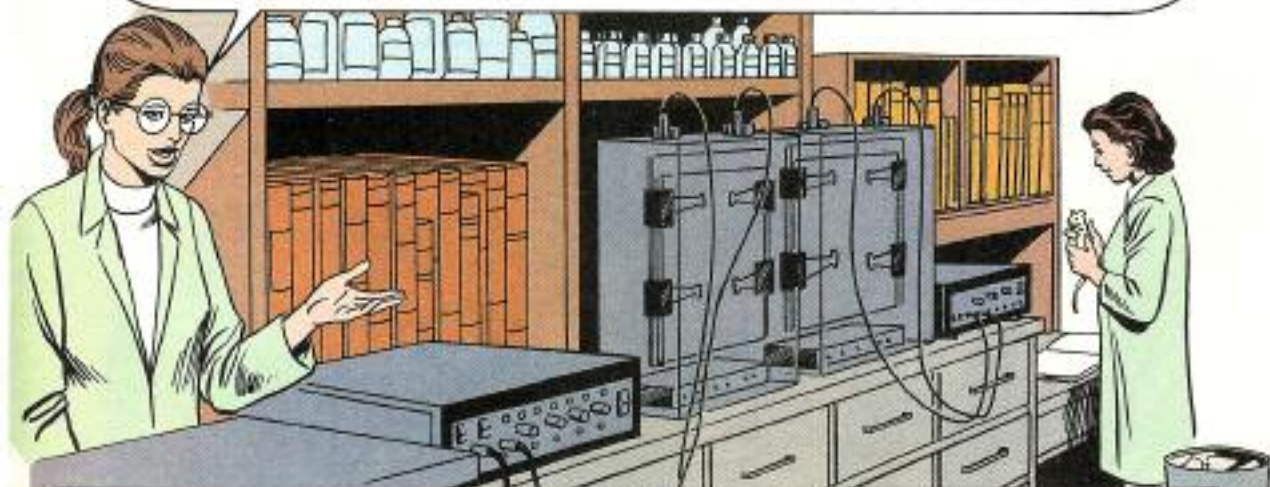
THANKS! DO YOU HAVE ANY COSMETICS THAT WEREN'T TESTED ON ANIMALS? I WANT TO TRY SOME NEW EYE MAKE-UP.



BY LAW, **ALL** INGREDIENTS IN COSMETICS HAVE TO BE PROVEN SAFE BY **FIRST** TESTING THEM ON ANIMALS -- JUST LIKE WE DO WITH MEDICINES.

ARE SCIENTISTS CRUEL TO ANIMALS WHEN THEY TEST THINGS ON THEM?

NO, RITA. ANIMALS ARE NOT MISTREATED. RESEARCHERS WANT TO TAKE **GOOD** CARE OF RESEARCH ANIMALS AND THEY FOLLOW STRICT RULES IN CARING FOR THEM. THEIR RESULTS MIGHT NOT BE VALID IF THE ANIMALS WERE UNHEALTHY OR DISTRESSED.



SCIENTISTS TEST MEDICINES AND COSMETICS ON ANIMALS BECAUSE THEIR **PHYSIOLOGY** -- THE ORGANS AND SYSTEMS OF THEIR BODIES -- RESEMBLES OUR OWN. THEY CAN USE ANIMAL MODELS TO GET AN IDEA HOW THE HUMAN BODY MAY REACT.



PHYSIOLOGY, HUH? YOU JUST GAVE ME AN IDEA FOR MY SCIENCE REPORT. THANKS!

YOU'RE SHOWING SIGNS OF IMPROVEMENT. JUST KEEP UP WITH YOUR PHYSICAL THERAPY. FORTUNATELY, YOUR BICYCLE HELMET PROTECTED YOU FROM MORE SERIOUS INJURY. HOW'S SCHOOL?

I'M STILL CATCHING UP. TONIGHT I HAVE TO DO A REPORT ON **PHYSIOLOGY**!



I GOT A PH.D. IN **PHYSIOLOGY** AFTER I BECAME A MEDICAL DOCTOR. **PHYSIOLOGISTS** WERE PART OF A MEDICAL TEAM THAT DEVELOPED THE DRUG THAT'S HELPING YOU RECOVER FROM YOUR ACCIDENT.

HOW DID THEY DO THAT?



RESEARCHERS STUDIED WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THE SPINAL CORD IS INJURED. THEY DISCOVERED THAT DAMAGED CELLS RELEASE A SUBSTANCE THAT CAUSES OTHER CELLS TO DIE. BUT THEY ALSO DISCOVERED THAT IF THE PATIENT GETS A HIGH DOSE OF A PARTICULAR HORMONE RIGHT AWAY, THE CHAIN REACTION OF THE INJURY CAN BE STOPPED. THAT'S WHAT WE GAVE YOU.




WHAT ABOUT THE BURNING SENSATIONS IN MY ARMS AND LEGS? WILL THEY GO AWAY?

MAYBE. WE DON'T KNOW YET WHAT CAUSES PEOPLE WITH SPINAL CORD INJURIES TO HAVE BURNING PAINS. THAT'S ONE **PHYSIOLOGY** PROBLEM WE'RE STILL WORKING ON.



BYE, DOCTOR. AND THANKS FOR GIVING ME AN IDEA FOR MY SCIENCE REPORT!







DID YOU FINISH YOUR REPORTS?

WITH A LITTLE HELP!

ME, TOO! I FOUND SOME GREAT INFORMATION AT THE LIBRARY AND ON THE INTERNET.

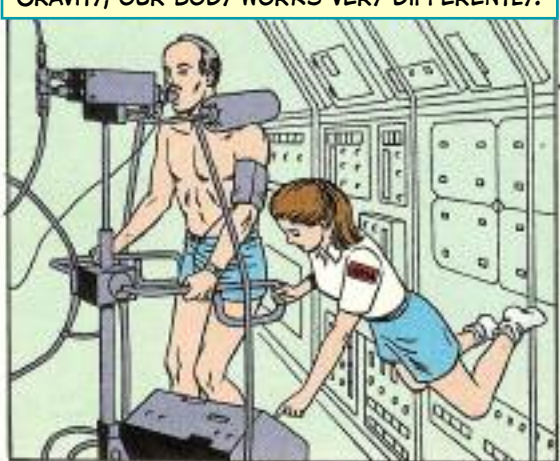


BEFORE WE BEGIN, I WANT TO ANNOUNCE THAT MRS. TODD HAD A LITTLE GIRL YESTERDAY AND BOTH ARE FINE! NOW LET'S START OUR REPORTS WITH JOANNE.



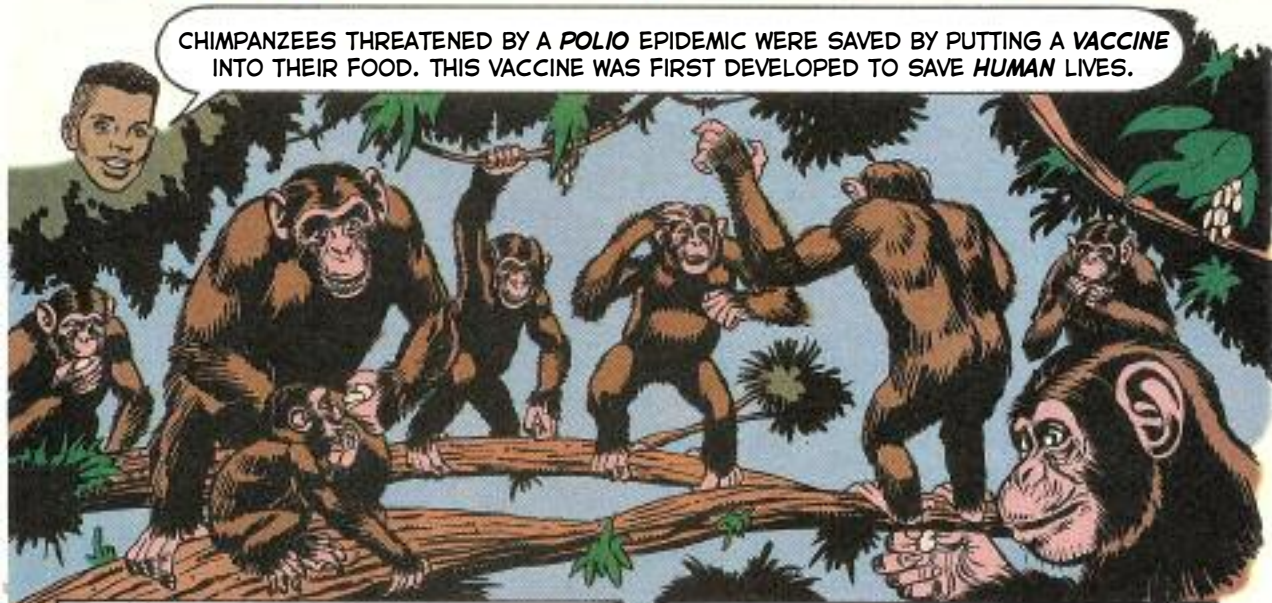
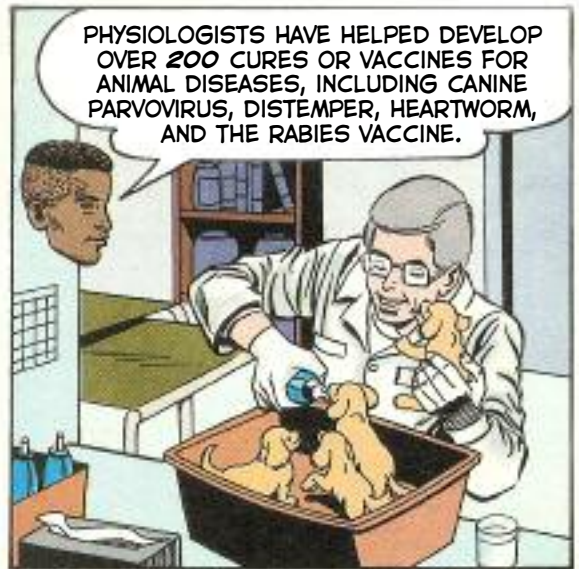
I FOUND OUT THAT RESEARCH BY PHYSIOLOGISTS HAS HELPED ASTRONAUTS STAY HEALTHY AND IMPROVE THEIR PERFORMANCE WHILE WORKING IN SPACE.

PHYSIOLOGISTS STUDY WHAT HAPPENS TO THE HEART, LUNGS, BLOOD, AND MUSCLES WHEN AN ASTRONAUT IS IN SPACE. THEY FOUND, IN MICROGRAVITY, OUR BODY WORKS VERY DIFFERENTLY.



PHYSIOLOGISTS STUDYING ASTRONAUTS FOUND THAT OUR BODIES ADAPT TO MICROGRAVITY IN MANY WAYS. WHEN ASTRONAUTS RETURN FROM SPACE, THEIR BRAINS, MUSCLES, EYES, INNER EARS, AND THE BODY'S PRESSURE SENSORS ARE NO LONGER COORDINATED FOR NORMAL GRAVITY. THIS AFFECTS THEIR BALANCE AND THEY HAVE TROUBLE WALKING DURING THE FIRST FEW HOURS AFTER LANDING.





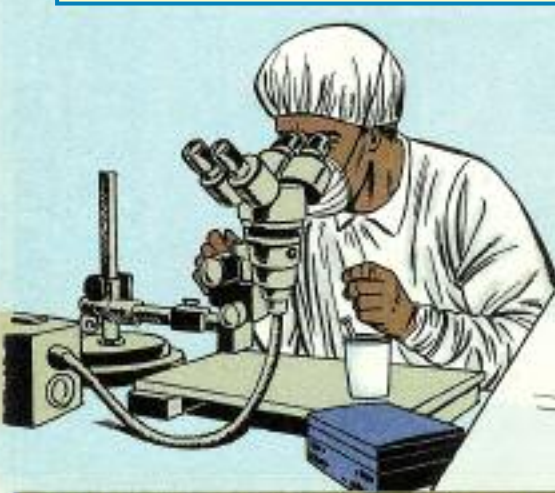
I DISCOVERED THAT **PHYSIOLOGISTS** MAKE SURE THAT NEW MEDICINES, FOOD ITEMS AND COSMETICS, ARE **SAFE** FOR US TO USE BY **FIRST** TESTING THEM ON **ANIMALS**.



ANIMALS HELP MEDICAL RESEARCHERS BRING **NEW** MEDICAL DISCOVERIES TO THE POINT WHERE THEY CAN BE USED ON **HUMANS**.



ANIMALS ARE OFTEN USED FOR RESEARCH BECAUSE CONDITIONS SUCH AS **LIGHT**, **DIET**, AND **TEMPERATURE** CAN BE EASILY CONTROLLED. THIS MAKES EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS MORE ACCURATE AND RELIABLE.



SCIENTISTS ALSO USE **COMPUTER MODELS** ALONG WITH **ANIMALS** TO CONDUCT STUDIES. COMPUTERS, HOWEVER, CANNOT MATCH THE **COMPLEXITY** OF A LIVING BODY. THE DATA USED TO DEVELOP COMPUTER MODELS MUST FIRST BE OBTAINED FROM OBSERVATIONS AND EXPERIMENTS WITH **LIVING** THINGS.



WHEN **PHYSIOLOGISTS** USE **ANIMALS** IN THEIR RESEARCH, THEY FOLLOW THE "**A.B.C.**" IN THEIR TREATMENT. **APPROPRIATE**, **BENEFICIAL**, AND **CARING**.



I FOUND OUT THAT **MEDICAL** DISCOVERIES MADE BY **PHYSIOLOGISTS** WERE USED TO HELP ME RECOVER FROM MY BIKE ACCIDENT.



FIRST RESEARCHERS DISCOVERED WHAT HAPPENS WHEN SOMEONE GETS HURT THE WAY I DID, THEN THEY FOUND A DRUG THAT HELPS THE BODY HEAL. NOW THEY'RE TRYING TO UNDERSTAND WHY PEOPLE WITH SPINAL CORD INJURIES SOMETIMES HAVE STRANGE SENSATIONS LIKE A BURNING FEELING IN THEIR ARMS AND LEGS.



PHYSIOLOGISTS ARE PART OF RESEARCH TEAMS, ALONG WITH OTHER BIOLOGISTS, STUDYING DIABETES, HEART DISEASE, HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE, AND MANY OTHER DISEASES. THEIR DISCOVERIES ARE HELPING US TO LIVE LONGER, HEALTHIER LIVES.



AFTER LEARNING HOW THE DISCOVERIES OF PHYSIOLOGISTS HELPED ME AFTER MY ACCIDENT, I WANT TO FIND OUT MORE. WHAT KIND OF PEOPLE BECOME PHYSIOLOGISTS AND WHAT DO THEY DO?



THANKS, DAVID. PHYSIOLOGISTS COME FROM MANY DIFFERENT BACKGROUNDS AND FIELDS. WHAT THEY HAVE IN COMMON IS THEY WANT TO LEARN ABOUT LIFE PROCESSES SO THEY CAN **HELP** PEOPLE AND ANIMALS, **PREVENT** SUFFERING AND DISEASE, AND MAKE THE WORLD A **BETTER** PLACE TO LIVE.



PHYSIOLOGISTS USE A WIDE VARIETY OF HIGH-TECH TOOLS IN THEIR RESEARCH: OSCILLOSCOPES, POLYGRAPHS, ELECTRON MICROSCOPES, NUCLEAR MAGNETIC IMAGERS. THEY ALSO USE COMPUTERS TO COLLECT AND ANALYZE DATA AND TO DEVELOP MATHEMATICAL MODELS TO HELP THEM INTERPRET EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS.



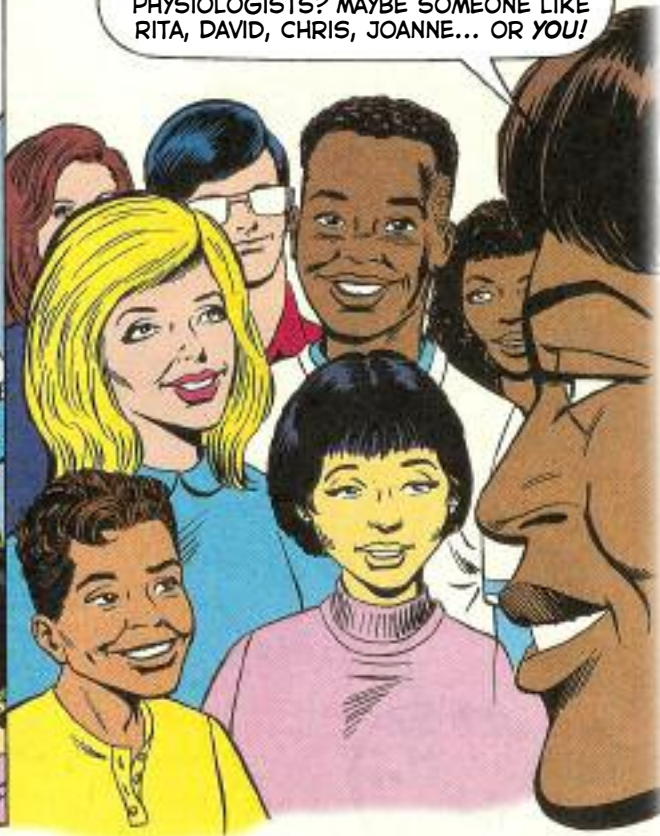
PHYSIOLOGISTS WORK IN **LABORATORIES** AND **LIBRARIES**, AND IN **HOSPITALS** AND **CLINICS** WITH SICK AND HEALTHY PEOPLE. PHYSIOLOGISTS ALSO STUDY THE **FRONTIERS** OF LIFE, FROM THE FAR REACHES OF THE EARTH AND EVEN INTO **SPACE**!



IF YOU DECIDE TO BECOME A PHYSIOLOGIST, THERE ARE **MANY** CAREERS YOU CAN CHOOSE IN **SCIENCE, MEDICINE, RESEARCH, AND TEACHING**. YOU MAY JOIN A TEAM OF SCIENTISTS WHO **DISCOVER** THE KEY TO A CRITICAL DISEASE IN THE FUTURE!



SO -- WHAT KIND OF PEOPLE BECOME PHYSIOLOGISTS? MAYBE SOMEONE LIKE RITA, DAVID, CHRIS, JOANNE... OR YOU!



MAJOR DISCOVERIES OF PHYSIOLOGY AND BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH

OVER THE LAST 100 YEARS, PHYSIOLOGISTS AND OTHER BIOMEDICAL RESEARCHERS HAVE MADE MANY BENEFICIAL DISCOVERIES THROUGH ANIMAL RESEARCH.



1800s

- Treatment for rabies, smallpox, anthrax, and beriberi (a Vitamin B deficiency)

1890s

- Typhoid Vaccine

1900s

- Local anesthetics

1910s

- Discovery of Vitamin A

1920s

- Discovery of insulin to control diabetes
- Discovery of Vitamins B1, B2, and E
- Treatment for distemper

1930s

- Discovery of Vitamins D and K
- Prevention of tetanus
- Development of modern anaesthesia

1940s

- Discovery of folic acids
- Diphtheria vaccine
- Penicillins, antibiotics, hormones, steroids, antihistamines
- Treatment of rheumatoid arthritis
- Treatment for Whooping Cough

1950s

- Prevention of polio
- Discovery of tranquilizers
- Discovery of DNA
- Development of open heart surgery and cardiac pacemaker
- Development of cancer chemotherapy

1960s

- Prevention of rubella
- Development of antipsychotic and antidepressant drugs

1970s

- Treatment for gastric ulcers
- Treatment for leprosy
- Prevention of measles
- Advances in heart transplant surgery and bypass operations

1980s to Now

- Organ transplant techniques
- Development of gene therapy and replacement
- New studies on Alzheimer's disease and the role of viruses in AIDS

Explore the mysteries of life...

With a career in **PHYSIOLOGY**

THERE ARE MANY CAREERS RELATED TO PHYSIOLOGY IN SCIENCE, MEDICINE AND RESEARCH. HERE'S HOW TO START!

HIGH SCHOOL

GET A STRONG BACKGROUND IN **SCIENCE** (BIOLOGY, CHEMISTRY, PHYSICS), **MATH** (ALGEBRA, GEOMETRY, TRIGONOMETRY, CALCULUS), AND **ENGLISH**.

COLLEGE

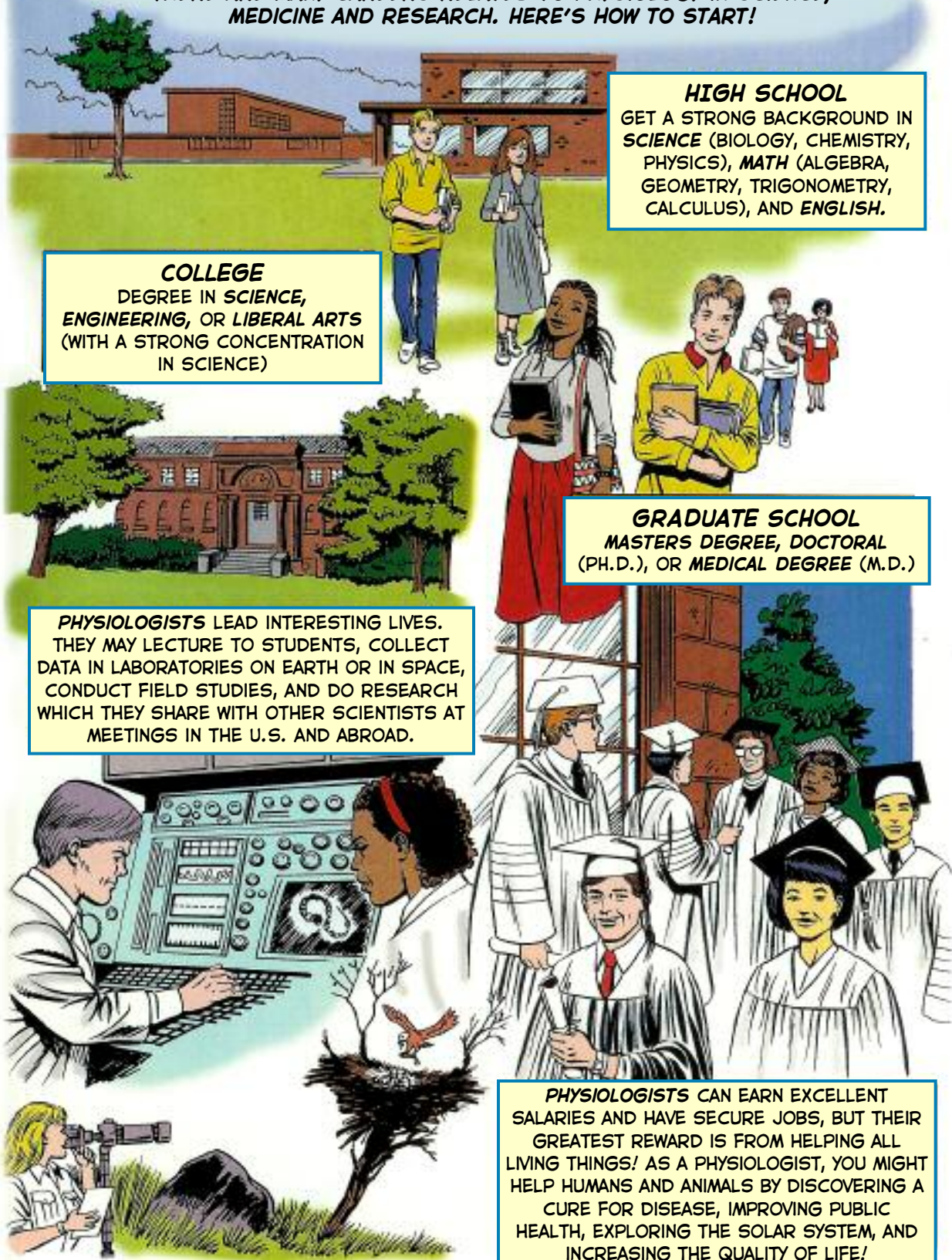
DEGREE IN **SCIENCE, ENGINEERING, OR LIBERAL ARTS** (WITH A STRONG CONCENTRATION IN SCIENCE)

GRADUATE SCHOOL

MASTERS DEGREE, DOCTORAL (PH.D.), OR MEDICAL DEGREE (M.D.)

PHYSIOLOGISTS LEAD INTERESTING LIVES. THEY MAY LECTURE TO STUDENTS, COLLECT DATA IN LABORATORIES ON EARTH OR IN SPACE, CONDUCT FIELD STUDIES, AND DO RESEARCH WHICH THEY SHARE WITH OTHER SCIENTISTS AT MEETINGS IN THE U.S. AND ABROAD.

PHYSIOLOGISTS CAN EARN EXCELLENT SALARIES AND HAVE SECURE JOBS, BUT THEIR GREATEST REWARD IS FROM HELPING ALL LIVING THINGS! AS A PHYSIOLOGIST, YOU MIGHT HELP HUMANS AND ANIMALS BY DISCOVERING A CURE FOR DISEASE, IMPROVING PUBLIC HEALTH, EXPLORING THE SOLAR SYSTEM, AND INCREASING THE QUALITY OF LIFE!



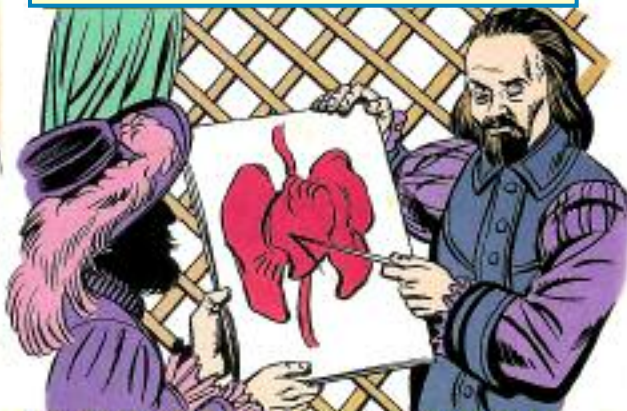
PHYSIOLOGY

Past, Present, And Future

THE BEGINNINGS OF PHYSIOLOGY CAN BE TRACED BACK TO ARISTOTLE IN THE 4TH CENTURY B.C. WHEN ANIMALS WERE STUDIED TO FIND OUT HOW THE HUMAN BODY WORKED.



IN ITS MODERN FORM, PHYSIOLOGY BEGAN IN THE 17TH CENTURY. IN 1628 WILLIAM HARVEY STUDIED THE ANATOMY OF DOGS AND DISCOVERED THAT THE HEART PUMPED BLOOD IN A CIRCUIT AROUND THE BODY.



PHYSIOLOGY GREW RAPIDLY AS SCIENTISTS TRIED TO DISCOVER HOW TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF DISEASE. IN 1887, THE AMERICAN PHYSIOLOGICAL SOCIETY WAS FORMED.



OVER THE LAST 100 YEARS, PHYSIOLOGY HAS ADVANCED INTO MANY AREAS - FROM OUTER SPACE TO THE BOTTOM OF THE SEAS - AS PHYSIOLOGISTS CONDUCT NEW INVESTIGATIONS TO HELP MEET THE CHALLENGES OF THE FUTURE!



For more information about the science of physiology and career opportunities, please contact:

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9650 Rockville Pike
Bethesda, MD 20814-3991
email: educatio@aps.faseb.org**



**Space Life Sciences Outreach Office
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**National
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