

▶ **What is Biology?**

The Living Earth

- ❑ The Living Earth is California's new biology class.
- ❑ It combines traditional biology topics with some earth science topics.
- ❑ Learning will now be more hands on and scientific!
 - ❑ You will no longer simply memorize facts!
 - ❑ Now we will learn to think and act like scientists.

What is Science?

← an organized way of using evidence to learn about the natural world.



What is Biology?

- Biology is the study of living organisms



Why Study Biology?

- ❑ Two important reasons for studying Biology:
 1. Biology is relevant to our everyday experience
 - ❑ Medical advances
 - ❑ Addressing needs of growing human population
 - ❑ Challenges of decreasing rate of biodiversity
 - ❑ Biotechnology advances



Why Study Biology?

2. Biology can be controversial

- Examples:
 - Dealing with endangered species?
 - Use of human fetal tissue in biomedical research?
 - Safety of irradiated foods?



What is Life?

- All living organisms have the 7 characteristics of life:

Are composed of one or more cells.

Acquire and use energy.

Grow and Develop

Reproduce

Internal regulation and order

Respond to the environment

Evolve and Adapt