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Space Life Sciences

Updated: November 26, 2003.

Definition

The study of the effects of the reduced-gravity environment of space flight and of outer space on living organisms. Space life sciences may also be called exobiology or astrobiology.

Scope and emphasis

The Library's primary interest is in the study of fundamental biological processes in space - for example, in the origin of life; the development of DNA, cells and early life forms; and changes to cellular mechanisms and physiological functions.