

## Possible titles for the book report assignment

- *The Fifth Horseman* by Richard Sherbaniuk - fiction that focuses on genetically modified organisms and bioterrorism.
- *Future of Disease* by David Clark
- *Next* and *Prey* by Michael Crichton - both are works of fiction that deal with genetic cloning.
- *Lucy* by Laurence Gonzales - a novel about a character who is half bonobo chimp and half human.
- *A Fierce Radiance* by Lauren Belfer - describes Penicillin and how it saved many lives.
- *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* by R. Skloot. A novel that explains where our cell lines for experimentation originated.
- *When A Gene Makes You Smell Like a Fish and Other Tales about the Genes in Your Body* by Lisa Seachrist Chiu. A layman's guide to human genetics and a collection of stories about the discovery of rare or not so rare genetic disorders.
- *The Brain That Changes Itself* by Norman Doidge, M.D. This book deals with brain plasticity.
- *The Inside of a Dog: What Dogs See, Smell, and Know* by Alexandra Horowitz. A biological look at the world of dogs - from the dogs point of view.
- *Gene Therapy: Fact and Fiction in Biology's New Approaches to Disease* by Theodore Friedman
- *Biological Exuberance: Animal Homosexuality and Natural Diversity* by Bruce Bagemihl
- *Brave New World* by Aldous Huxley. A classic about test tube and designer babies.
- *The Botany of Desire* by Michael Pollan. This book details the history of four very important plants in our world's history - the apple, marijuana, the tulip and the potato.
- *Into The Jungle: Great Adventures in the Search for Evolution* by Sean Carroll. This work invites students to step into the lives of naturalists who followed their dreams, and often risked their lives, to explore the unknown and who made some of the most important discoveries that have shaped our understanding of how life has evolved.
- *A Brand New Bird: How Two Amateur Scientists Created The First Genetically Engineered Animal* by Tim Birkhead. The brand-new bird is the red canary. It was the object of a quest that two Germans--Hans Duncker, a high school teacher interested in genetics, and Karl Reich, a bird keeper--carried on in Bremen for many years, beginning in 1921. Duncker's idea was to pluck the genes from a red siskin (a relative of the canary) and insert them into the yellow canary. His method was cross-breeding. The effort fell short of the goal, producing canaries of a reddish coppery hue. But it led to success years later by others who recognized the subtle connection between genes and the environment, in this case a diet containing carotenoids. Birkhead, professor of evolutionary biology at the University of Sheffield in England, makes a grand story by weaving in lore about genetics, bird keeping and the people involved in the quest.