

1.1 LATIN AND GREEK TERMS

Directions The following is a list of Latin and Greek prefixes and suffixes that are often used to develop scientific names for organisms. Use any combination of one or more adjectives to create species names for your organisms. Try to use at least one noun for the genus name. Do not use both Latin and Greek words in the same scientific name. For example, suppose you had a photo of a long snake with a very flat head and nose. You could name it: *Herpeto platyrhino* (reptile flat nose).

Meaning	Latin	Greek
above	super	hyper
against	contra	anti
animal		zoo
anus	ano	proctus
around	ambi	peri
banded	fasciat	
beak	rostr	ryncho
behind	post	opistho
belly	ventro	
bird	avi	ornitho
black	nigr	melan
blood	sanguini	haemo
blue	cerulo	cyano
body	corporo	soma
brown	castane	caryochro
caterpillar	eruca	campa
cell	cella	cyto
coal	carb	anthraco
color	colori	chromo
curved		toxo
dark	obscur	amauro
egg	ovi	oo

Meaning	Latin	Greek
foot	pedi	podo
forked	furc	dicho
form	form	morpho
four	quadri	tetra
gold	aur	chryso
gray	glauc	polio
green	virid	chloro-
hair	capill	thrix
hairy	hirsut	trichodo
head	capiti	cephala
hollow		coelo
horn	corn	cera
horned	cornut	cerato
insect	insecti	entomo
joint	articuli	arthro
egg-shaped	oval	
eight	octo	octo
equal	equi	iso
eye	oculi	ophthalmo
face	faci	
fish	pisci	ichthyo
five	quinque	pento

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STUDENT SHEET

(continued)

1.1 LATIN AND GREEK TERMS (CONTINUED)

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Meaning	Latin	Greek
flat	plani	platy
large	grandi	macro
lemon	galban	citrin
lobed	lobat	
long	longi	delicho
man	homoni	anthropo
many	multi	poly
middle	medi	meso
mouth	ora	stoma
near	proxim	engy
nine	novem	ennea
nose	nasi	rhino
one	uni	mono
one thousand	milli	kilo
one-half	semi	hemi
orange	auranti	cirrho
part	parti	mero
plant	herbi	phyto
purple	purpur	porphyro
red	rubr	erythro
reptile		herpeto
round	rotundi	cyclo
scale	squami	lepido
scarlet	coccin	
seven	septem	hepta
sharp	acri	oxy
shell		ostracum
short	brevi	brachy
side	latero	pleuro

Meaning	Latin	Greek
silver	argent	argyro
six	sex	hexa
skin	derm	cuti
skull		cranium
small	minut	micro
smooth	glabr	lisso
spiny	spini	echino
spiral	spirali	helico
spotted	maculat	halio
square	quadrat	
streaked	plagat	
striped	vittat	
tall	alti	aepy
ten	decim	deca
three	tri	tria
tooth	dent	odonto
twisted		strepto
two	bi	di
under	sub	hypo
violet		
water	aqua	hydro
wavy	undulat	
white	alb	leuco
wide	lati	eury
wing	ali	ptero
within	intra	endo
worm	vermi	helmintho
wrinkled	corrugat	rhyso
yellow	flav	xantho

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