

BioForge – Joke Book

A Spark & Anvil joke book. Groan-worthy puns, tricky riddles, silly nonsense, and real fun facts from the world of BioForge – read them out loud and make someone laugh.

Why did the cell go to the doctor?

Because it wasn't feeling well -- it had a bad membrane!

How to use this book

Read a joke, pause at the question, and try to guess the answer before you read on. Best of all: read them out loud to a friend, a grown-up, or your class. A good laugh makes the tricky stuff easier – that's real science.

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Puns

Why did the cell go to the doctor?

💡 Because it wasn't feeling well -- it had a bad membrane!

What did the biologist wear to impress their date?

💡 Designer genes!

Why was the mushroom invited to every party?

💡 Because he was a fun-gi to be around!

What do you call a fish without eyes?

💡 A fsh! (But really, it's a cave fish -- they evolved that way.)

Why did the plant go to the therapist?

💡 It had too many deep-rooted issues!

What did one cell say to its sister cell when she stepped on its foot?

💡 "Ow, mitosis!"

Why are frogs so happy?

💡 They eat whatever bugs them!

Why did the white blood cell get a promotion?

💡 It always went above and beyond to fight for the body!

What did the vacuole say to the cytoplasm?

💡 "I need more space -- I'm storing a lot of stuff in here!"

Why don't biologists trust atoms?

💡 Because they make up everything -- including all living things!

What's a red blood cell's favorite type of music?

💡 Hemoglo-BEATS!

Why did the enzyme break up with the substrate?

💡 Because it just wasn't the right fit anymore!

What do you call a lazy neuron?

💡 A nerve that won't fire -- it just doesn't have the impulse!

Why do plants hate math?

💡 Because it gives them square roots!

What did the mitochondria say at the talent show?

💡 "I'm the powerhouse of this performance!"

Why did the amoeba fail the test?

💡 It kept splitting before it could finish!

What do you call two dinosaurs who crash into each other?

💡 Tyrannosaurus wrecks! (But technically, they went extinct before the crash.)

Why was the stomata always stressed?

💡 It was under too much pressure to let things in and out!

What did the DNA strand say when it was feeling down?

💡 "I feel like I'm unraveling -- I need to replicate myself and move on!"

Why did the skeleton refuse to fight?

💡 It didn't have the guts!

Riddles

I'm in every living cell but I'm not alive myself. I carry instructions for building proteins and I look like a twisted ladder. What am I?

💡 DNA! The double helix stores the genetic code for all life.

I take sunlight, water, and carbon dioxide, and I turn them into sugar and oxygen. Plants depend on me to make their food. What process am I?

💡 Photosynthesis! It happens in the chloroplasts of plant cells.

I'm a tiny organelle that makes energy for the cell. Without me, cells couldn't do much of anything. Scientists call me the powerhouse. What am I?

💡 The mitochondria! They convert glucose into ATP through cellular respiration.

I have a cell wall, chloroplasts, and a large central vacuole -- but I'm not an animal cell. What kind of cell am I?

💡 A plant cell! Those three features are what distinguish me from animal cells.

I'm a process where one cell divides into two identical copies. I'm how your body grows and repairs itself. What am I?

💡 Mitosis! Each daughter cell gets a complete copy of the DNA.

I'm an organism that eats other organisms for energy. I can't make my own food like plants do. What type of organism am I?

💡 A consumer (heterotroph)! Animals, fungi, and many bacteria are consumers.

I'm a system of tubes that carries blood throughout your body. I include arteries, veins, and capillaries. What body system am I?

💡 The circulatory system! Your heart pumps blood through about 60,000 miles of blood vessels.

I change over many generations, not in a single lifetime. I happen through natural selection when organisms with helpful traits survive and reproduce more. What am I?

💡 Evolution! Small changes accumulate over thousands or millions of years.

I'm the tough outer layer of a plant cell that gives it shape and support. Animal cells don't have me. I'm made mostly of cellulose. What am I?

💡 The cell wall! It sits outside the cell membrane and acts like armor.

I break down dead organisms and return nutrients to the soil. Without me, the world would be buried in dead things. Fungi and bacteria are my biggest members. What role do I play?

💡 Decomposer! We're nature's recycling crew.

I'm a relationship where two different species both benefit from living together. Clownfish and sea anemones are a famous example of me. What am I?

💡 Mutualism! The clownfish gets protection while the anemone gets cleaned.

I'm made of amino acids strung together like beads on a necklace. I fold into specific shapes to do specific jobs in your body. What type of molecule am I?

💡 A protein! My shape determines my function -- enzymes, antibodies, and hemoglobin are all proteins.

I'm a group of similar cells that work together to do a specific job. Muscle, nerve, and skin are all types of me. What am I?

💡 Tissue! Tissues combine to form organs.

I'm a gas that plants release as a waste product of photosynthesis. Animals need me to survive. What am I?

💡 Oxygen! Plants make it during the light reactions when water molecules are split.

I control what enters and exits the cell. I'm made of a double layer of phospholipids. I'm selectively permeable -- I let some things through but not others. What am I?

💡 The cell membrane! It's sometimes called the plasma membrane.

I'm a version of a gene. You get one copy from your mom and one from your dad. I can be dominant or recessive. What am I?

💡 An allele! Different alleles of the same gene produce different traits.

I'm the largest organ in the human body. I protect you from germs, help regulate temperature, and I'm completely replaced about every 27 days. What am I?

💡 Your skin! It has three layers: epidermis, dermis, and hypodermis.

I connect all living things in a habitat through what they eat. I'm more complex than a simple chain because most organisms eat more than one thing. What am I?

💡 A food web! It shows all the interconnected feeding relationships in an ecosystem.

I'm a structure inside the nucleus that contains tightly coiled DNA. Humans have 46 of me arranged in 23 pairs. What am I?

💡 A chromosome! You get 23 from each parent.

I use sugar and oxygen to release energy for the cell. I'm basically the reverse of photosynthesis. I happen in the mitochondria. What process am I?

💡 Cellular respiration! The equation is roughly the opposite of photosynthesis.

Silly Stuff

The mitochondria is the powerhouse of the cell. This is the one biology fact that every student remembers forever. You could forget your own birthday, but you will never forget that the mitochondria is the powerhouse of the cell.

Imagine being a red blood cell. Your entire life is just lapping the body on a 20-second highway loop, delivering oxygen and picking up carbon dioxide. No breaks. No vacations. You don't even get a nucleus. You gave that up for more cargo space.

A student looked at a cell under a microscope and said, "Where's the door?" The teacher asked what they meant. "Well, things go in and out of the cell, so there must be a door somewhere." The cell membrane wept.

Your body replaces almost every cell over time. That means the you from seven years ago is basically a completely different person, physically speaking. So technically, you have a built-in excuse for anything embarrassing you did in elementary school.

Photosynthesis is basically a plant eating sunlight for lunch. Imagine if you could do that. "What's for dinner?" "I'm just going to stand in the backyard for a while." Your grocery bill would be zero.

Bacteria can divide every 20 minutes. If a single bacterium started dividing with unlimited food, in just 48 hours it would theoretically outweigh the entire Earth. Fortunately, they run out of snacks long before that.

A platypus lays eggs, produces milk, has a beaver tail, a duck bill, and venomous spurs. When scientists first saw a preserved specimen, they literally checked for stitches because they thought someone glued different animals together as a prank.

Your stomach acid is strong enough to dissolve metal. The only reason it doesn't dissolve your stomach is that your stomach lining replaces itself every few days. Your body is basically in a constant argument with itself.

A student asked, "If we evolved from apes, why are there still apes?" The teacher explained that we didn't evolve from modern apes -- we share a common ancestor. The student said, "So we're more like cousins?" Close enough.

Trees are basically giant air purifiers that work for free, make their own food, provide housing for hundreds of species, and ask for nothing in return except some water and sunlight. Trees are the most generous organisms on the planet.

Your DNA is about 60% identical to a banana's. Let that sink in. Right now, you are sitting there being 60% banana. Do with that information what you will.

A teacher said, "The human brain named itself." The class went silent for about ten seconds. Then someone whispered, "That's the most unsettling thing I've ever heard." The brain, of course, thought it was a great observation.

Jellyfish have survived for over 500 million years without a brain, heart, or bones. They just float around eating things. Some students look at jellyfish and think, "That's the life." The jellyfish have no opinion on this because, again, no brain.

A paramecium has one cell and manages to eat, move, respond to its environment, and reproduce. Meanwhile, you have 37 trillion cells and sometimes forget why you walked into a room.

During metamorphosis, a caterpillar basically dissolves itself into soup inside the chrysalis and rebuilds from scratch into a butterfly. If that's not the most dramatic glow-up in nature, nothing is.

Fun Facts

Did you know? The human body contains about 37 trillion cells. If you counted one cell per second without stopping, it would take you over a million years to count them all!

Did you know? An octopus has three hearts, blue blood, and nine brains -- one central brain and a mini-brain in each of its eight arms! Each arm can taste and feel independently.

Did you know? Your nose can detect over 1 trillion different scents! For decades scientists thought the number was about 10,000, but recent research proved our sense of smell is far more powerful than we imagined.

Did you know? Tardigrades (water bears) are microscopic animals that can survive being boiled, frozen to near absolute zero, exposed to radiation, and even launched into the vacuum of outer space -- and still come back to life when rehydrated!

Did you know? The Amazon rainforest produces about 20% of the world's oxygen, but it also consumes nearly all of it through respiration. Most of Earth's breathable oxygen actually comes from ocean phytoplankton!

Did you know? Hummingbirds are the only birds that can fly backwards! Their wings beat up to 80 times per second, and their hearts can beat over 1,200 times per minute during flight.

Did you know? Your small intestine is about 20 feet long -- roughly the length of a school bus! If you flattened out all its folds and tiny finger-like villi, the surface area would cover a tennis court.

Did you know? Sharks have been on Earth for over 400 million years -- that means they're older than trees! The earliest trees appeared about 350 million years ago, but sharks were already swimming in ancient oceans.

Did you know? A single teaspoon of healthy soil contains more microorganisms than there are people on Earth! These bacteria, fungi, and other tiny creatures are essential for breaking down dead matter and recycling nutrients.

Did you know? Human bone is about five times stronger than a steel bar of the same weight! Bones get their strength from a combination of hard minerals (calcium phosphate) and flexible collagen protein.

Did you know? Dolphins sleep with one eye open -- literally! They shut down one half of their brain at a time so the other half can stay alert for predators and remember to surface for air.

Did you know? The largest living organism on Earth isn't a whale or a tree -- it's a honey fungus in Oregon's Blue Mountains that spans about 2,385 acres. It's been growing for an estimated 2,400 years!

Did you know? When you blush, the lining of your stomach also turns red! The same adrenaline response that sends blood rushing to your face affects blood vessels throughout your body, including your digestive tract.

Did you know? Crows can recognize individual human faces and hold grudges for years! Researchers who wore masks while capturing crows found that even years later, crows would scold anyone wearing the same mask.

Did you know? Every cell in your body contains about 6 feet of DNA. If you uncoiled all the DNA in all your cells and laid it end to end, it would stretch from the Earth to the Sun and back over 600 times!

Keep laughing

That's **70 jokes** from BioForge. Made someone laugh? Try making up your own – the best jokes are the ones you tell.

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