

BioLinks Scientific Journal Club

My name is Amishi Desai, and I am a high school rising senior at Horace Mann School in the Bronx, New York. My experiences participating in research internships at the McGovern Institute for Brain Research at MIT and the Zuckerman Institute at Columbia University, along with my high school AP Biology class, have given me exposure to the cellular/molecular biological research field and how to read scientific literature, something I hope to share through BioLinks with other students with a passion for Biology like myself.

Each weeklong journal club will be based around a recent research paper, starting with the field of Neurobiology. By expanding on topics from high school Biology, we will gradually build knowledge around the paper and understand some of the key techniques involved in the current biological research field.

You will also have the opportunity to ask any questions pertaining to the content covered and interact with scientists from research institutions, who will be present for part of the journal club.

I would recommend at least a year of introductory high school Biology for participation in BioLinks, however anyone is welcome.

The format of each weeklong journal club will include:

- Pre-Journal Club: 15-20 minute introductory reading
- Monday: **1 hour (flexible) initial zoom** meeting to get introduced to the paper, learn content and ask some questions
- Between Monday and Friday: **1-1.5 hr independent, asynchronous work** completed on each participant's own schedule, involving reading parts of the paper, interpreting figures, and answering some questions
- Friday: **1 hour final zoom** with Scientist on Friday to ask questions and discuss the paper further

NOTE: Zooms will only be on Monday and Friday of the week*, independent work can be completed at any time between then.

Each journal club is completely independent, and participants should feel free to sign up to any/multiple journal clubs of their choice. All material for independent work and non-interactive parts of the zoom meetings will be available online if participants need to catch up.

The first journal club will be on neurobiology, held from Monday June 22nd to Friday June 26th. It will discuss a Nature Neuroscience paper that investigates the cellular/molecular basis of common hypersensitivity traits associated with Autism Spectrum Disorder using a mouse model.

Below is the full schedule of journal clubs for the summer months.

If interested, please register for Biolinks now using this google form:

<https://forms.gle/Vk9ts3NgdmgJCYrP7>

SCHEDULE

(times are flexible to change according to attendees needs, if you have a timing preference for later journal clubs please indicate on the google form.)

June 22nd *3pm-4pm* - June 26th *3pm-4pm*
June 29th *3pm-4pm* - July 2nd *3pm-4pm* (Thursday)
July 13th *3pm-4pm* - July 17th *3pm-4pm*
July 27th - July 31st (*time TBD*)
August 10th- August 14th (*time TBD*)
August 24th - August 28th (*time TBD*)

*The 2nd Zoom will be on Thursday July 2nd rather than Friday for the week of June 29th.