

Glossary of Terms

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Anadromous

1. Migrating from the sea to fresh water to spawn.
2. Many [fish](#) migrate on a regular basis, on time scales ranging from daily to annual, and over distances ranging from a few meters to thousands of kilometers. Fish usually migrate because of diet or reproductive needs; although in some cases the reason for migration remains unknown.

Anthropology

1. The social science that studies the origins of social relationships of human beings.
2. Anthropology's basic concerns include but are not limited to the following questions:
 - a) What defines *Homo sapiens*?
 - b) Who are the ancestors of modern *Homo sapiens*?
 - c) What are humans' physical traits?
 - d) How do humans behave?
 - e) Why are there variations and differences among different groups of humans?
 - f) How has the evolutionary past of *Homo sapiens* influenced its social organization and culture?
3. In the United States, contemporary anthropology is typically divided into four sub-fields:
 - a) cultural anthropology (also called "social anthropology"),
 - b) archaeology,
 - c) linguistic anthropology, and
 - d) physical (or biological) anthropology.^[3] The four-field approach to anthropology is reflected in many undergraduate textbooks^[4], as well as anthropology programs (e.g. Michigan, Berkeley, Penn, etc.). At universities in the [United Kingdom](#), and much of [Europe](#), these sub-fields are frequently housed in separate departments and are seen as distinct disciplines.

Archaeology

1. The branch of anthropology that studies prehistoric people and their cultures.
2. The study of past [human societies](#), primarily through the recovery and analysis of the [material culture](#) and environmental data which they have left behind, which includes [artifacts](#), [architecture](#), [biofacts](#), and [cultural landscapes](#). Because archaeology employs a wide-range of different procedures, it can be considered to be both a [science](#) and a [humanity](#),^[1] and in the [United States](#) it is thought of as a branch of [anthropology](#),^[2] although in [Europe](#) it is viewed as a separate discipline.

Botany

1. Phytology or plant biology is a branch of [biology](#) that involves the [scientific study](#) of plant [life](#). Botany covers a wide range of scientific disciplines concerned with the study of [plants](#), [algae](#) and [fungi](#), including [structure](#), [growth](#), [reproduction](#), [metabolism](#), [development](#), [diseases](#), chemical properties, and evolutionary relationships among taxonomic groups.

Botany began with early human efforts to identify edible, medicinal, and poisonous plants, making it one of the oldest sciences. Today, botanists study over 550,000 [species](#) of living organisms.

Cairn

1. A mound of stones piled up as a memorial or to mark a boundary or path.
2. A human-made pile of stones, often in conical form. They are usually found in [uplands](#), on [moorland](#), on [mountaintops](#), or near [waterways](#).

Curation

1. The act of curating, of organizing and maintaining a collection of artworks or artifacts.
2. The act of curing or healing.
3. The manual updating of information in a database.

Fly Yard

1. Area where materials that need to be flown in by helicopter to the construction site are stored when access to the site is not possible because of mountains, wetlands, etc.

Funerary

1. Of or for or relating to a funeral; i.e., funerary urn.

Interment

1. Burial: the ritual placing of a corpse in a grave.
2. Also called **interment** and **inhumation**, is the act of placing a person or object into the ground. This is accomplished by excavating a pit or trench, placing an object in it, and covering it over.

Indigenous

1. Nativeness by virtue of originating or occurring naturally (as in a particular place).
2. In [biogeography](#), a [species](#) is defined as native to a given region or [ecosystem](#) if its presence in that region is the result of only natural processes, with no human intervention. Every natural [organism](#) (as opposed to a [domesticated](#) organism) has its own natural range of distribution in which it is regarded as native. Outside this native range, a species may be introduced by human activity; it is then referred to as an [introduced species](#) within the regions where it was anthropogenically introduced.

3. An indigenous species is not necessarily **endemic**. In biology and ecology, endemic means exclusively native to the **biota** of a specific place. An indigenous species may occur in areas other than the one under consideration.

Invertebrate

1. Insects and butterflies.
2. An **animal** without a backbone. The group includes 95 percent of all animal **species**^[1]— all animals except those in the **chordate subphylum Vertebrata** (**fish**, **amphibians**, **reptiles**, **birds**, and **mammals**).
3. **Carolus Linnaeus** divided these animals into only two groups, the **Insecta** and the now obsolete **Vermes** (**worms**). **Jean-Baptiste Lamarck**, who was appointed to the position of Curator of Insecta and Vermes at the Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle in 1793, both coined the term invertebrate to describe such and divided the original two groups into ten, by splitting off **Arachnida** and **Crustacea** from the Linnean Insecta, and **Mollusca**, **Annelida**, **Cirripedia**, **Radiata**, **Coelenterata** and **Infusoria** from the Linnean Vermes. They are now classified into over 30 **phyla**, from simple organisms, such as **sea sponges** and **flatworms** to complex animals such as **arthropods** and **molluscs**.
4. Invertebrates form a **paraphyletic** group. (For a full list of animals considered to be invertebrates, see **animal**.) All the listed phyla are invertebrates along with two of the three **subphyla** in Phylum **Chordata**: **Urochordata** and **Cephalochordata**. These two phyla, plus all other known invertebrates, have only one cluster of **Hox genes**, while the vertebrates have duplicated their original cluster more than once.
5. Within **paleozoology** and **paleobiology**, invertebrates big and small are often studied within the **fossil** discipline called **invertebrate paleontology**.

Lek

1. A patch of ground used for communal display in the breeding season by the males of certain birds and mammals, especially black grouse. Each male defends a small territory in order to attract females for mating.

Obsidian

1. Acid or granitic glass formed by the rapid cooling of lava without crystallization; usually dark, but transparent in thin pieces.
2. A naturally occurring **volcanic glass** formed as an extrusive **igneous rock**. It is produced when **felsic lava** extruded from a **volcano** cools rapidly without crystal growth. Obsidian is commonly found within the margins of **rhyolitic** lava flows known as obsidian flows, where the chemical composition (high **silica** content) induces a high viscosity and polymerization degree of the lava. The inhibition of atomic diffusion through this highly viscous and polymerized lava explains the lack of crystal growth. Because of this lack of

crystal structure, obsidian blade edges can reach almost molecular thinness, leading to its ancient use as [projectile points](#) and blades, and its modern use as surgical [scalpel](#) blades.

Salmonid

1. Soft-finned fish of cold and temperate waters.
2. A [family](#) of [ray-finned fish](#), the only living family currently placed in the [order](#) Salmoniformes. It includes [salmon](#), [trout](#), [chars](#), [freshwater whitefishes](#), and [graylings](#). The Atlantic salmon and trout of [genus Salmo](#) give the family and order their names.