

## Goal 1.4

### Reflection

As a biology major, I have come to appreciate different aspects of biology like organisms. In the course of my studies, I have looked at various organisms like periphyton and the function of the human body. Learning and observing these organisms is an important aspect of being a biology major. Being able to understand these organisms and apply them to everyday life is the main goal as well as analyzing and applying the major principles of organismal biology.

In my ecology and evolution class, I was able to compare periphyton in the Appomattox River and Buffalo Creek. I found that the population and diversity of periphyton can be determined by temperature, oxygen, light, and flow location. With these findings, I was able to analyze and apply the major principles of organismal biology. I compared different organisms and analyzed their functions within this class.

Comparing organisms like bacteria is something I have done in many classes including microbiology. For this paper, we compared tabletop cleaners to observed if the bacteria were efficiently killed. In this class, I was able to compare different organisms and analyze their functions. For this paper, I was able to apply these skills and compare this organism when faced with certain chemicals.

As someone who is most interested in anatomy, learning about the function of the eyes was quite interesting. In my vertebrate morphology class, I wrote a short essay on eyes and their function of how they see color. Through this paper, I was able to apply the principles

of organismal biology and go through the function of the eyes. I analyzed different aspects like their evolution, why eyes are able to see, and why they're able to see color. My analysis helped me apply the biology principle to my paper.

Overall I've had many classes was I was able to understand the principles of organismal biology to now being able to analyze and apply them as well. It's important to be able to apply different principles of biology for they are all important in their own way. These skills will help me become a better scientist and will contribute to my future courses. Being able to observe different organisms has been very interesting and has sparked an interest in this topic that I look forward to researching.