**Biology**

Ancient Greeks developed the science of **biology [biology: the study of living things; their structure, growth, and function]**. About 600 B.C.E., Greek thinkers believed each event has a cause and an effect. They used this idea to study the natural world.

Curiosity led Greeks to study plants and animals. Scientists learned about the anatomy, or body structure, of animals and humans. This knowledge helped doctors in their medical studies.

The Greeks identified plants and also named their parts. The Greeks learned that plants reproduce by spreading seeds. Greek doctors used plants, such as herbs, as medicines and for pain.

The Greek philosopher Aristotle was fascinated by living things. He collected information about many types of animals and plants. Then he organized animals into groups, such as “those with backbones” and “those without backbones.” He divided plants into such groups as “herbs,” “shrubs,” and “trees.” The way we classify, or group, animals and plants today reflects the work of Aristotle.