

## Supplementary Materials

**Table S1.** Items by category of biodiversity interests

Categories	Items
Curiosities about living beings	a13 - Curious aspects of living beings a14 - Curiosities of the organisms where I live a47 - Curiosities about snakes a53 - Different and curious organisms
Health or human utility	a7 - How people, animals, plants and the environment depend on each other a22 - Diseases caused by microorganisms a27 - Bacteria: dangers and benefits a35 - Fungi and human food a37 - Disease-causing fungi a38 - Bacteria and the manufacture of medicines a39 - Use of plants in the pharmaceutical industry a41 - Plants in food a50 - The microorganisms that live in humans a56 - Use of medicinal herbs or health treatments with alternative medicine (acupuncture, homeopathy) a61 - Animal use in human food a62 - How mycoses are caused a63 - The use of a guide dog by people with disabilities a64 - Fungi in the manufacture of medicines c2 - How to improve crops in vegetable gardens and farms c3 - Medicinal use of plants c5 - Benefits and possible dangers of gene modification for agriculture
Danger	a2 - Dangerous and poisonous animals a3 - Toxic plants in my region a27 - Bacteria: dangers and benefits a47 - Curiosities about snakes
Fear and disgust	a12 - The microorganisms around us a15 - Fungi in our daily life a22 - Diseases caused by microorganisms a27 - Bacteria: dangers and benefits a30 - The different fungi in nature a32 - The diverse world of insects a33 - Worms in the environment a34 - Living beings that live in garbage a37 - Disease-causing fungi a46 - The life of frogs a47 - Curiosities about snakes a50 - The microorganisms that live in humans a54 - Microorganisms in nature a62 - How mycoses are caused
Diversity of organisms	a6 - How plants grow and reproduce a16 - Plants and their characteristics a18 - Differences and diversity of flowers, leaves and fruits a29 - Genetic differences and proximity of plants

	a32 - The diverse world of insects a43 - The genetic importance of organisms in our forests a44 - Genetic differences and proximity of animals a48 - Organisms that live in the oceans a49 - The diversity of fish in rivers
Ecology	a7 - How people, animals, plants and the environment depend on each other a8 - How animals use colors to hide, attract or scare a11 - How living things interact in their environment a20 - The different environments where organisms live a24 - Strategies that plants use to protect themselves, attract or drive away other beings a26 - How organisms manage to live in the places they inhabit a51 - Rivers as a shelter for life
Impacts and preservation of organisms	a10 - Protection of endangered plants a17 - Environmental impacts on living beings and solutions a19 - Alternatives for the use of natural resources a21 - Forms of species preservation a23 - Alternatives to using animals for experiments a28 - Environmental problems and solutions a31 - Protection of endangered animals c5 - Benefits and possible dangers of gene modification for agriculture
Evolution	a1 - The origin and evolution of life on Earth a5 - Dinosaurs, how they lived and why they disappeared a29 - Genetic differences and proximity of plants a42 - How a new species appears a44 - Genetic differences and proximity of animals a52 - Kinship relationships between living beings
Development of Science	a23 - Alternatives to using animals for experiments a36 - How scientists study animals a40 - How scientists study plants a57 - How new scientific ideas sometimes challenge religion, authority and tradition c6 - Famous scientists and their lives c7 - Errors and failures in research and inventions c8 - Inventions and discoveries that transformed the world c9 - Phenomena that scientists still cannot explain

**Table S2.** Items by subcategory of the "Health or human utility" category

Subcategory	Items
Biodiversity and Health Utility	a38 - Bacteria and the manufacture of medicines a39 - Use of plants in the pharmaceutical industry a56 - Use of medicinal herbs or health treatments with alternative medicine (acupuncture, homeopathy) a64 - Fungi in the manufacture of medicines c3 - Medicinal use of plants
Biodiversity and Diseases	a22 - Diseases caused by microorganisms a27 - Bacteria: dangers and benefits a37 - Disease-causing fungi a62 - How mycoses caused
	a7 - How people, animals, plants and the environment depend on each other a27 - Bacteria: dangers and benefits

Biodiversity and Other Human Utili- ties	a35 - Fungi and human food
	a41 - Plants in food
	a61 - Animal use in human food
	a63 - The use of a guide dog by people with disabilities
	c2 - How to improve crops in vegetable gardens and gardens
	c3 - Medicinal use of plants

**Table S3.** Marginal descriptive statistics of students' interests in biodiversity by category

Category	N	$\bar{X}$	SD	Min.	1st Quartile	Median	3rd Quartile	Max.
Development of Science	179	2.84	0.60	1.13	2.38	2.88	3.25	4.00
Evolution	179	2.79	0.61	1.00	2.33	2.83	3.17	4.00
Impacts and preservation of organisms	174	2.79	0.63	1.00	2.38	2.75	3.25	3.88
Health or human utility	166	2.74	0.56	1.53	2.31	2.76	3.12	3.88
Danger	184	2.72	0.64	1.25	2.25	2.75	3.25	4.00
Curiosities about living beings	181	2.60	0.68	1.00	2.25	2.50	3.00	4.00
Ecology	180	2.58	0.59	1.00	2.14	2.57	3.00	3.86
Diversity of organisms	175	2.54	0.60	1.11	2.11	2.56	2.89	4.00
Fear and disgust	170	2.46	0.57	1.14	2.07	2.43	2.86	3.79

**Table S4.** Marginal descriptive statistics of "Health or human utility" category items

Item	N	$\bar{X}$	SD	Min.	1st Quartile	Median	3rd Quartile	Max.
a56 - Use of medicinal herbs or health treatments with alternative medicine (acupuncture, homeopathy)	186	3.10	0.98	1.00	2.00	3.00	4.00	4.00
a63 - The use of a guide dog by people with disabilities	186	3.08	0.93	1.00	2.25	3.00	4.00	4.00
c3 - Medicinal use of plants	184	2.95	0.96	1.00	2.00	3.00	4.00	4.00
a39 - Use of plants in the pharmaceutical industry	188	2.87	1.04	1.00	2.00	3.00	4.00	4.00
a38 - Bacteria and the manufacture of medicines	186	2.83	1.04	1.00	2.00	3.00	4.00	4.00
a22 - Diseases caused by microorganisms	185	2.79	0.96	1.00	2.00	3.00	4.00	4.00
a27 - Bacteria: dangers and benefits	188	2.74	1.00	1.00	2.00	3.00	4.00	4.00
a7 - How people, animals, plants and the environment depend on each other	188	2.71	0.97	1.00	2.00	3.00	3.00	4.00
a61 - Animal use in human food	187	2.70	1.06	1.00	2.00	3.00	4.00	4.00
a50 - The microorganisms that live in humans	185	2.68	1.03	1.00	2.00	3.00	4.00	4.00
a37 - Disease-causing fungi	187	2.67	1.04	1.00	2.00	3.00	4.00	4.00
c5 - Benefits and possible dangers of gene modification for agriculture	182	2.66	0.98	1.00	2.00	3.00	3.00	4.00
a64 - Fungi in the manufacture of medicines	185	2.66	1.06	1.00	2.00	3.00	4.00	4.00
c2 - How to improve crops in vegetable gardens and farms	185	2.59	0.96	1.00	2.00	3.00	3.00	4.00
a35 - Fungi and human food	188	2.59	1.02	1.00	2.00	3.00	3.00	4.00
a41 - Plants in food	187	2.52	0.97	1.00	2.00	2.00	3.00	4.00
a62 - How mycoses are caused	185	2.16	0.97	1.00	1.00	2.00	3.00	4.00

**Table S5.** Marginal descriptive statistics of “Diversity of organisms” category items

Item	N	$\bar{X}$	SD	Min.	1st Quartile	Median	3rd Quartile	Max.
a48 - Organisms that live in the oceans	188	2.91	1.05	1.00	2.00	3.00	4.00	4.00
a44 - Genetic differences and proximity of animals	188	2.69	0.93	1.00	2.00	3.00	3.00	4.00
a49 - The diversity of fish in rivers	188	2.66	0.96	1.00	2.00	3.00	3.00	4.00
a18 - Differences and diversity of flowers, leaves and fruits	187	2.62	0.94	1.00	2.00	3.00	3.00	4.00
a43 - The genetic importance of organisms in our forests	184	2.56	0.95	1.00	2.00	3.00	3.00	4.00
a32 - The diverse world of insects	187	2.45	1.04	1.00	2.00	2.00	3.00	4.00
a16 - Plants and their characteristics	186	2.40	0.93	1.00	2.00	2.00	3.00	4.00

**Table S6.** Marginal descriptive statistics of "Health or human utility" subcategories

Subcategory	N	$\bar{X}$	SD	Min.	1st Quartile	Median	3rd Quartile	Max.
Biodiversity and Health Utility	177	2,89	0,72	1,00	2,40	3,00	3,60	4,00
Biodiversity and Other Human Utilities	179	2,74	0,55	1,25	2,37	2,75	3,12	3,80
Biodiversity and Diseases	182	2,60	0,75	1,00	2,00	2,75	3,25	4,00