

We encourage all biology educators to write for *The American Biology Teacher*. The peer-reviewed journal includes articles for teachers at every level. The five general categories of articles are:

- Feature Article (up to 4000 words)
 - a. Summaries of research on teaching alternatives, including evaluation of new methods, cooperative learning, concept maps, learning contracts, investigative experiences, educational technology, simulations and games, and biology standards
 - b. Social and ethical implications of biology and how to teach them, sex education, aging and death, genetic engineering, energy, pollution, agriculture, population, health care, nutrition, sexuality, gender, and drugs
 - c. Reviews of recent scientific advances in biology or fields that influence biology
 - d. Imaginative views of the future and suggestions for coping with changes
- Research on Learning (up to 4000 words)

Reports of original classroom research on innovative teaching strategies, learning methods, or curriculum comparisons. Such studies should be based on a research question, along with a hypothesis, discussion of an appropriate design, and procedures, data, and analysis and inferences accompanied by limitations of the study and recommendations for improved learning.
- Inquiry and Investigation (up to 3000 words)

Novel and engaging laboratory or field activities that address national biology education standards, complete with concept explanation, materials needed, student instructions, student assessment, and teacher implementation suggestions.
- How-To-Do-It (up to 2000 words)

Suggestions for implementation of laboratory, field, or other inquiry-based classroom activities, including

a title, rationale, objectives, materials, appropriate safety precautions, engagement strategies, student and teacher procedures, and assessment.

- Quick Fix (up to 600 words)

A simple and quick biology activity, update of a laboratory or field procedure, special technique, motivational or teaching strategy to learn a specific concept.

Submission Guidelines

Submit all manuscripts **electronically** as a single document attached to an e-mail. We encourage manuscripts to be written in MS Word.doc files in Times New Roman and 12 pt font. On the first page, include the manuscript title and complete author data including e-mail, institution, position, mailing address, and phone. On the second and subsequent pages, include only the title, 100-word abstract, five or six key words, and body of the manuscript. We will remove the first page before sending the remainder for review. You can use 1.5 line spacing throughout the manuscript. Please include all tables, figures, drawings, figure legends, images, and other graphics in the document where they are intended to appear in print. **Send all manuscripts to Bill Leonard, ABT Editor, at leonard@clemsun.edu.**

Editorial Procedures

- We direct communications only to the first author of multiple-authored articles.
- At least three individuals who have expertise in the respective content area will review each article. This is a blind review process in which reviewers do not know the names of the author(s). Authors should remove any identifying data from all but the first page of the submission.
- Although we attempt to make decisions on articles as soon as possible after receipt, this can take six to eight months. We will acknowledge receipt of all manuscripts and will notify authors of editorial decisions as soon as they are available.

- The Editor will submit accepted manuscripts to the Managing Editor for copy editing that may involve making changes in style and content. However, the author is ultimately responsible for scientific and technical accuracy. Page proofs will be sent to authors for a final review before publication at which time, only minor changes can be made.
- Please have biographical information (e.g., full name, title, school/organization) and contact information (e.g., postal address, phone, fax, e-mail) on the first title page so we can send page proofs, a copyright release form, and reprint information before an article is published.

Writing and Style Guidelines

Use the *Chicago Manual of Style, 14th Edition* in regards to questions of punctuation, abbreviation, and style. List all references in alphabetical order on a separate page at the end of your manuscript. References must be complete and in *ABT* style. For example, look at a past issue. Use first person and a friendly tone whenever appropriate. Use concise words to emphasize your point rather than gimmicks such as capitalization, underlining, italics, or boldface. Use the SI (metric) system for all weights and measures.

Note: If all authors are not members of NABT, there will be page charges of \$100 per journal page to be paid before publication.

The *ABT* frequently has issues that focus on a specific area of biology education. Future focus issues are published in most issues. We encourage potential authors to consider writing their manuscripts to align with future focus topics. Thank you for your interest in *The American Biology Teacher*. We look forward to seeing your manuscripts soon.

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Guidelines for Preparing Figure Artwork

General requirements:

- All images must be production-ready.
- For any artwork that has been computer-generated, the digital creation files must be included, as well as a composite file.
- Labeling: If you need to add text labeling to identify parts of your image, also include a version of the image without text labeling.
- Include a hard copy of all files as a reference.
- Do not attempt to adjust or resample the resolution for digital files.
- Include all figure and table creation files related to your manuscript and place in a folder titled "EXTRAS."
- In addition to placing all files in the EXTRAS folder, embed figures and tables into the manuscript in the location they are to appear — **except for large photographic images**. For these, simply note the title of the figure where it is to appear.
- Low-resolution images that are intentionally resampled at a higher resolution will cause the article to be placed on hold.
- Files created using Inspiration software will not be accepted.

Photographic images:

- Digital files are preferred for manuscripts and must meet the following guidelines:
 - **Always include the original file.** This should be the largest file you have with the highest resolution. Digital cameras should be set to the highest camera setting. Ideally, these files (camera shots or scans) should be 350 pixels per inch.* If you must use images from a Web site, also provide us with the URL, which will give us the option of creating a better screen capture. TIFF and JPEG formats are preferred.
- If you cannot send digital files, you may send original photographic slides or prints (duplicates or polaroids will not be accepted).

Line art images:

- A vector file is preferred (Illustrator or Freehand, saved as an EPS file).
- Raster images in TIFF or EPS formats are accepted for line art only if they meet our resolution requirement of 1200 dpi at the final usage size (typically 5" x 3").

Requirements for Submitting Cover Photographs for *The American Biology Teacher*

We encourage submissions of cover photographs from all members of NABT. Covers are selected based on the quality of the image, originality, overall composition, and interest to life science educators. *ABT* has high standards for cover image requirements. Please follow the requirements listed below. If you have questions, contact Bill Leonard at leonard@clemson.edu.

1. Sharp, clear, color 35 mm slides are highly preferred. Submit only the original; duplicates will not work. If you wish to submit digital images, the file must have these minimum requirements: 400 pixels per inch at 8.5 x 11.25. This translates to a minimum of 3400 pixels by 4500 pixels, for a total file size of more than 15 megabytes uncompressed. This translates to files with a minimum of 8 megapixels (10 or higher is preferred).
2. When submitting digital cover images for review, include an original file that is **has not been edited or enhanced**.
3. Choose slides with a vertical subject orientation.
4. Avoid cropping the subject too tightly. It is best to provide an area of background around the subject.
5. Be sure to clearly label your slides with your name in ink.
6. Include a brief description of the image, details of the shot (i.e., circumstances, time of day, location, type of camera, camera settings, etc.), and biographical information.
7. Include your name, home and e-mail address, and phone numbers where you can be reached.

If you have any questions, contact Cheryl Merrill at cmerrill@nabt.org.

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