

## Press Release



# 100 Science Words Every College Graduate Should Know

by the Editors of the American Heritage® Dictionaries

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**THE 100 WORDS™**

## About the Book

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How do bats "see" in the dark? Why do ocean waves break parallel to the shore, no matter what direction they come from? What is the psychiatric disorder whereby people feign illness in order to gain medical attention? How do online stores keep credit card numbers secret from hackers?

The latest title in the best-selling 100 Words series, *100 Science Words Every College Graduate Should Know* (Houghton Mifflin, April 5, 2006), provides simple answers to these and dozens of other questions about the fundamental concepts of science and technology.

Almost every day there are new facts and ideas discussed in the media about the makeup of the universe, the roles genes play in disease, the dangers of sweeping environmental change, and countless other things. People who are unfamiliar with the key words of science may not be able to fathom the rapid advances and developments taking place around them — even when they hit close to home.

Are you up to the challenge? Find out by reading *100 Science Words Every College Graduate Should Know*, by the Editors of the American Heritage® Dictionaries. A wide variety of new and established terms are discussed, including *absolute zero*, *anaphylaxis*, *cryptography*, *echolocation*, *game theory*, *Kuiper belt*, *mitochondrion*, *Munchausen syndrome*, *quantum mechanics*, and *refraction*. Each term is defined in

clear, nontechnical language, with examples showing the importance of the word both in its field and in daily life.

This book will appeal not only to college graduates, but to anyone with an interest in scientific concepts and the latest breakthroughs in the news.

The following is the entire list of 100 words:

absolute zero	Kuiper belt
agoraphobia	kwashiorkor
alga	logic gate
algorithm	magnetosphere
allele	megabyte
alternating current	melanoma
amygdala	mitochondrion
anaphylaxis	monotreme
angiogenesis	monsoon
apoptosis	Munchausen syndrome
archaeon	nanotube
artesian well	Neanderthal
ATP	nosocomial infection
bandwidth	obligate
Beringia	orbital
big bang	pahoehoe
black hole	Pavlovian
Brownian motion	phenotype
Cambrian Explosion	pheromone
capacitor	photoelectric
carbon sequestration	photon
centripetal force	piezoelectric effect
chemosynthesis	placebo
cognitive dissonance	prion
complementarity	prophylaxis
cryptography	protein folding
cyanobacterium	protolanguage
cyclone	quantum mechanics
dendrochronology	radiometric dating
echolocation	rain shadow
endorphin	refraction
estivation	REM sleep
eutrophication	retrovirus
Fibonacci sequence	roentgenium
fission	sex
fundamental force	sociobiology
game theory	solar wind
genome	superposition
gluon	telomere
heliocentrism	teratogen
histone	theory

hominin  
hypha  
imaginary number  
interferon  
ischemia  
isomer  
junk DNA  
krill  
KT boundary

tidal force  
time dilation  
Universal Time  
urea  
vestigial  
wave function  
xerophyte  
yolk  
zero