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By using an issues-oriented approach, the new edition of this respected text grabs student interest with real-life issues that hit home. This text includes new coverage and pedagogy that encourages students to think critically about hot-button issues and includes outstanding new features that take students beyond memorization and encourage them to ask questions in new ways as they learn to interpret data. Show students how biology matters ? Biology's connections to real life are reflected in every chapter of this new edition, beginning with opening Impacts,Issues essays;a brief case study on a biology-related issue or research finding and is revisited throughout the chapter, reminding students of the real-world significance of basic concepts. Additional, online exercises promote critical thinking about issues students will face as consumers, parents, and citizens. Link concepts from chapter to chapter ? Links to Earlier Concepts appear near the Key Concepts, to help students remember what they've learned in earlier chapters and apply it to the new material to come. At the beginning of each section, students are reminded of the earlier link that is most appropriate for their current study.

About the Author

For the past two decades, Cecie Starr has been known as one of the best-selling biology textbook authors. Her texts, appreciated for their clarity in both the written word and the visual representation of biological concepts, include multiple editions of Biology: the Unity and Diversity of Life, Biology: Concepts and Applications, and Biology Today and Tomorrow. Her original dream was to become an architect. Instead of building houses, she now builds, with care and attention to detail, incredible texts based on this philosophy: "I invite students into a chapter through an intriguing story. Once inside, they get the great windows that biologists construct on the world of life. Biology is not just another house. It is a conceptual mansion. I hope to do it justice."

Ralph Taggart, Former Chair of Biological Sciences at Michigan State University, Ralph Taggart is now the chair of Geological Sciences. Professor Taggart, known for his outstanding research in Paleobotany, has taught the general biology course for over 20 years.

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Christine A. Evers has been creating multimedia and web-based materials to supplement Starr and other science texts for ten years. She earned her B.S. in Biology from SUNY Stony Brook . After working as a research assistant studying the developmental biology of slime mold, she was awarded an N.S.F. fellowship to attend Yale, where she studied evolutionary biology and honeybee behavior.

Lisa Starr has been responsible for the incredible art in the Starr biology textbooks for many years. She has worked at as a research scientist at The Scripps Institute as well as several other institutions. Her area of expertise is biochemistry, molecular and cell biology.