

Where Does Life Come From?

*Describe experiments about spontaneous generation.

*Explain how scientific methods led to the idea of biogenesis

*Examine how chemical compounds found in living things might have formed.

Life Comes From Life

*Early scientists believed life came from nonliving things. Spontaneous generation was accepted for hundreds of years.

Before the seventeenth century, some people thought that insects and fish came from mud, that earthworms fell from the sky when it rained, and that mice came from grain.



Spontaneous Generation and Biogenesis

*Louis Pasteur disproved spontaneous generation and replaced it with biogenesis.



Life's Origins

*Some scientists hypothesize that Earth's solar system was a whirling mass of gas and dust, and that is what the sun and planets formed from.



Oparin's Hypothesis

*He hypothesized that gases combined to form complex compounds found in living things.

