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Using biological research articles throughout the first-year mathematics curriculum

Using student-selected scientific research articles in the first year Calculus sequence allows for students to study cutting edge applications and enriches the class by bringing in a diverse set of examples. Students study topics that they are interested in and develop their own motivation for studying the mathematical concepts. The following topics will be discussed: the areas of study that are conducive to student-selected articles, how to assist students in picking topics and searching for articles at the right level, and how to craft appropriate assignments. Specific materials will be available including citations of articles that students have used, materials created to assist the students in understanding the graphs and equations in the articles, and assignments that have been reviewed positively by the students.