

Source: CABAP High School Textbook Survey, March-May 2005

Survey results: http://www.edgateway.net/pub/cabap_docs/97

Publisher: Holt

Modern Biology

STANDARDS: 6 in-depth, 4 moderate, 2 limited

USEFUL: 4 extremely, 5 moderately, 3 not

District	Course	Edition	Standards	Useful	Comments
Marysville	Biology	2001	In-Depth	Moderately	Book is a very good resource. It doesn't water down the material. It could use a better choice of labs, most of the labs I use in the course are the result of my years of experience. I think a better development of the lab portion would be helpful. I also think there should be a vocabulary strand that helps students practice determine the meanings of science words by practicing these of roots, prefixes etc. If there were better vocabulary development that stood alone or apart from the curriculum I think it would help students and teachers alike. Learning a science is akin to learning a foreign language.
Inglewood	Honors Biology	2002	Limited	Not Useful	The book covers the standards but they are not aligned to the standards
Mt. Diablo	Biology	?	In-depth	Not Useful	This is a terrible text. It's too wordy, too much extra information, hard to read, and encourages the worst kinds of teaching and low level thinking
ESUHSD	Biology	1999	Moderate	Moderately	Good Reference for students. Needs many supplements to be effective.
Hesperia	Biology	2002	Moderate	Moderately	For the average student this book has a problem with reading comprehension levels.
Santa Barbara	Biology/ AP Bio	2002	In-Depth	Extremely	This is one of the best textbooks I've ever seen for biology. I use the teacher's edition, which has great sections for "Critical Thinking", "Extension" (additional exploration), and good "Investigation" projects for labs. The text is clear and concise, the photos and illustrations are clear and well-labeled. Teachers have access to the text in Spanish, spoken English (good for students with visual impairment or other limitations) and there are a wealth of tests, workbooks, multimedia, and many other useful items on the CDs (additional costs, but well worth the investment) It is good enough to be also used as a text for city college biology classes. It is a well-

					planned and richly enhanced textbook. For classes of students who are not ready for biology, Holt, Reinhart & Winston has another series that is also rich in related resources and materials, but is geared toward students who need a rich, but less advanced life sciences course.
Corcoran	Biology	1999	Moderate	Moderately	None
San Mateo	Biology	1999	Moderate	Moderately	The resources for the book are good. I like that they have an active reading component that uses the material in the chapter to improve reading skills with comprehension, analogies etc. What I don't like is that it isn't is an older more traditional book and that it has so many chapters. There are 53 chapters so it's impossible to finish the book.
Woodland	Biology	2002	Limited	Not	Worthless for teaching the standards...over half the book is not on the standards. Almost all teacher materials (worksheets, etc.) are also not useable without rewriting.
San Rafael	Honors Biology	2002	In-Depth	Extremely	Very readable, good resource materials, good test-writing software
Alvord	Biology	1999	In-Depth	Extremely	None
LAUSD	Biology	1993	In-Depth	Extremely	Student find this text easier to read and understand. They also have commented that they can find information quickly with it. Would have preferred to have this text as our adopted text, but I was not dept. chair at the time. I would have stuck with this text, but upgrading to the newer version which is even better. Again it also needs to delete detailed chapters on phylums.