

BIOCHEMISTRY WITH DR ALAN GODDARD

TALKING POINTS

1. What are the two strains of microbes that Alan is working with? (See *Introduction to the article*)
2. What is *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*? (See *What are Saccharomyces and Propionibacteria and why is Alan's lab interested in them?*)
3. At which percentages is yeast killed when it produces ethanol? (See *What are some of the challenges involved in Alan's research?*)
4. When was the term biochemistry coined? (See *About Biochemistry*)
5. Who coined it? (See *About Biochemistry*)
6. Who developed the 'fluid mosaic' model of cell membranes? (See *Are there any famous biochemists?*)
7. Name two things the team have been trying to understand the effects of on membranes at the molecular level. (See *Has Alan's lab had any recent successes?*)

ACTIVITIES YOU CAN DO AT HOME OR IN THE CLASSROOM

CITIZEN SCIENCE: COULD YOU CREATE A SUPER YEAST?

SuperYeast is a citizen science project that seeks to crowdsource yeast. Alan and his team are asking members of the public to send them samples of yeast that have been produced through brewing or baking. These yeast samples will be tested for tolerance to sugar and alcohol and the aim is to determine which yeast samples are the most tolerant.

If you or your school want to get involved, you'll be helping Alan's team learn how microbes cope with stresses such as ethanol. You'll also be helping the researchers to address some of the issues surrounding climate change.

To request your free yeast sample kit, email membrane@aston.ac.uk.

MORE RESOURCES

- The Biochemical Society might well be the best resource out there for those interested in exploring a career in the field. The team there actively support innovation and advancement in biochemistry. Do have a read through.
- The Association for Clinical Biochemistry and Laboratory Medicine is an essential resource for those interested in pursuing a career in biochemistry. Do have a read through this truly impressive website.
- The wonderful NHS has a webpage dedicated to their NHS Scientist Training Programme, which provides information on another possible route into the field of biochemistry.