BIOLOGY 12
Genetics Inquiry Project: GMO News Piece

**Introduction**:

To Begin: [Bill Blocking Mandatory Labeling Of GMOs Proposed In Senate](http://www.ibtimes.com/bill-blocking-mandatory-labeling-gmos-proposed-senate-2318236)

Recently you have gained knowledge that Monsanto, one of the largest agricultural companies and supplier of genetically modified organisms (GMOs) in the world, has discovered a way to genetically modify cows to produce chocolate milk. The cows appear healthy in every way, except that they cannot produce regular milk, only chocolate milk.

Not So Weird: [Web-Spinning Goats](http://phys.org/news/2010-05-scientists-goats-spider-silk.html)

Monsanto will monetize their new GMOs, or "chocolate cows" for short, by selling them to farmers by the generation. Farmers can buy a chocolate cow, raise it, and milk it for its entire life, but they are not allowed to breed new cows with it and must buy more if they run out.

It’s Happened Before: [Roundup Ready Crops & Terminator Seeds](http://web.mit.edu/demoscience/Monsanto/about.html)

**The Project**:

You are a writer at a major online, television, radio, and print news outlet. You decide the name!

You have been assigned the task of covering this story for your news source. You will need to do some research on the topic first to make sure that you have an informed opinion. Investigate genetically modified organisms and by exploring what you find interesting about them. You might use the following questions to help guide your research:

* What does it mean to genetically modify an organism?
* How are organisms genetically modified?
* What animals and plants have been successfully modified already?
* What are the health benefits and drawbacks of genetically modified organisms?
* What are the economic benefits and drawbacks of genetically modified organisms?

Write a news article on the topic based on your research findings. You may write the article from a pro-GMO or con-GMO point of view, or you may attempt to keep the pros and cons balanced. As a distinguished news reporter who works for a reputable and trusted news outlet, you are trusted to write the article in whatever way you believe will serve the public's best interests.

**Specifications**:

Length: 4-5 paragraphs (5-7 sentences each). The form can be whatever you wish! It can take the form of an online article, printed article, audio recording, video, or anything else.

References: Include any sources you use in a bibliography that includes each source's title, date of publication, and authors.

*What did the biologist wear to impress her date? Designer genes!*