

**Mouth  
Pipetting.**

**Repetitive  
stress injury.**

**Computer older  
than combined  
age of all grad  
students.**

**Grad student  
who has been  
in the  
department  
longer than all  
known faculty.**

**Asbestos.**

**Golden boy.**

**Bayesian  
statistics.**

**Labcest (lab  
incest).**

**Ecologist chic.**

**Gastro-  
intestinal  
worms.**

**Anthrax.**

**Ernst Haeckel.**

**Lotka-Volterra  
Equation.**

**J.B.S. Haldane.**

**Island  
biogeography.**

**Intermediate  
host.**

**Schisto-  
somiasis.**

**Rinderpest.**

**E.O. Wilson.**

**An empty  
pipette.**

**Nudibranchs.**

**Astral  
projection.**

**A 3D printed  
heart.**

**Cosmic  
microwave  
background  
radiation.**

**Nuclear waste.**

**Traumatic  
insemination.**

**A significant  
increase in  
entropy.**

**Carl Sagan's  
turtlenecks.**

**Reviewer 3.**

**Tardigrades.**

**The control  
group.**

**A gravitational  
lens.**

**An impact  
crater.**

**Crashing into  
the Sun.**

**Nano-  
technology.**

**No-one knows.**

**Dissolved in a  
vial of  
hydrochloric  
acid.**

**Lab rotation  
students.**

**Internet  
arguments  
about Richard  
Dawkins.**

**A DNA ladder.**

**Supermassive  
black hole.**

**The 10 Inuit  
words for  
sperm.**

**Irrefutable  
proof of life on  
Mars.**

**A learning  
opportunity.**

**Fundamental  
discord  
between theory  
and experiment  
leading to a  
paradigm shift.**

**Evidence that  
there really is a  
God.**

**42.**

**Newton's  
virginity.**

**Brain parasites.**

**Pauli exclusion  
principle.**

**Hypermatter  
annihilation  
reaction.**

**Church of  
Scientology.**

**Violent  
relaxation.**

**Mice with  
tumors on their  
butts.**

**Falsifying data.**

**Nature cover.**

**Hunger strike  
when I don't  
get tenure.**

**RNAases.**

**Pipette fatigue.**

**Stephen  
Pinker's hair.**

**Integral charts.**

**Lab coat  
stains.**

**Getting  
scooped.**

**Laser spot  
damage.**

**Centrifuge  
tubes.**

**$p < 0.05$ .**

**Machine  
learning  
buttressed  
Bayesian  
statistical  
inference.**

**Schrodinger's  
cat.**

**Genome.**

**Gravity,  
sponsored by  
Red Bull.**

**Watson and  
Crick slash/fic.**

**Robert Boyle's  
passed gas.**

**LIGO.**

**Soft money.**

**Leftover pizza.**

**Utter and  
complete lack  
of faculty  
presence at  
social  
activities.**

**Two-body  
problem.**

**Blood-stained  
lab coat.**

**Unethical  
bastardization  
of the scientific  
method.**

**TMNT ooze.**

**Friggin black  
holes, man!**

**Quantum  
teleportation.**

**Positronic  
neural net. It's  
a real thing!**

**Cold fusion.**

**Magnetic  
monopoles.  
That's right,  
plural!**

**Your advisor  
marrying one  
of his other  
graduate  
students, who  
started after  
you did.**

**Astronomers  
attempting to  
dance.**

**That one guy  
everyone in the  
field hates but  
who publishes  
way too damn  
often  
somehow.**

**Overwhelming  
incompre-  
hensible over-  
commitment.**

**Wet mergers  
with dynamical  
friction.**

**The Leidenfrost  
Effect.**

**Onions.**

**Scientology.**

**The Caspian  
Sea.**

**The Matrix.**

**Kansas Dept.  
of Education.**

**National  
Science  
Foundation.**

**A well-  
sharpened  
pencil.**

**The TARDIS.**

**Autoclave.**

**Natural  
selection!**

**Darwin.**

**A crescent  
moon.**

**Phalanges  
banging.**

**Brightly  
coloured  
liquids.**

**Uranus.**

**The  
Cosmological  
Constant.**

**Black Hole.**

**Bilateral  
symmetry.**

**A Petri dish full  
of  
spermatozoa.**

**A two-headed  
snake.**

**A corkscrew  
duck penis.**

**Evolution gone  
awry.**

**Cosmic strings.**

**Van Allen belt.**

**Reprogrammed  
stem cells.**

**Microscopic  
black holes.**

**40-gallon drum  
of nuclear  
waste.**

**David  
Attenborough's  
vocal stylings.**

**Mice sprouting  
tumors.**

**Asymmetrical  
body parts.**

**Interstellar  
space.**

**The Scoville  
scale of pepper  
hotness.**

**Fecal  
transplants.**

**Crime scene  
DNA.**

**Nanoparticle  
swarms.**

**Grey goo.**

**Solar flares.**



**Robot overlords.**

**Amber-encased insect.**

**Humpback whale song.**

**Mosquitofish.**

**Donor organs.**

**Invasive carp.**

**Undifferentiated stem cells.**

**Cosmic inflation.**

**Fractured metatarsals.**

**Mad cow disease.**

**Electro-shocking earthworms.**

**Cocaine ordered from Sigma Aldrich.**

**Tetrahydrocannabinol.**

**A jar of leeches.**

**Replacing polymerase enzyme with rancid komodo dragon saliva.**

**A gravitational constant string.**

**Passing out on  
lab ethanol.**

**The metric  
system.**

**A spontaneous  
fission  
reaction.**

**Pickle juice.**

**Answers in  
Genesis.**

**Neil DeGrasse  
Tyson.**

**Autism caused  
by  
vaccinations.**

**Creationists.**

**The control  
group.**

**Unicorns.**

**Going inside  
soap bubbles.**

**Opposable  
thumbs.**

**Carl Sagan's  
frustrated  
desire to  
become a tarot  
card reader.**

**Phylum Echino-  
dermata.**

**Sea squirts.**

**Coughing on  
your labmate's  
plate of  
primary cells.**

**Presenting  
your data in  
Comic Sans.**

**Prancing about  
in a bunny suit  
in the BSL-3  
lab.**

**Bonobo sex.**

**Schrodinger's  
Cat.**

**A grad student  
with nothing to  
lose.**

**Awkward  
advisor  
interaction.**

**MRSA.**

**Chlamydia.**

**Spaghettificat-  
ion.**

**The  
radioactive,  
undead corpse  
Marie Curie  
back from the  
grave, out for  
revenge.**

**Maxwell's  
demon.**

**Statisticians  
with  
haemorrhoids.**

**Testing  
bunnies with  
cosmetics.**

**Artificial  
insemination.**

**Excess  
production of  
methane.**

**Free radicals.**

**Flatlining brain.**

**Stonehenge.**

**Methane from  
cows.**

**A type Ia  
supernova.**

**A temporal  
anomaly.**

**Lab hazing.**

**Schrodinger's  
cattery.**

**Undergrads.**

**Mice that eat  
their babies.**

**Putting dry ice  
in Eppendorf  
tubes.**

**Pavlov's doggy  
daycare.**

**Explosive  
testes.**

**Experimenting  
on yourself.**

**Three gallons  
of pure ethanol.**

**"Field" work.**

**Accidentally  
falling in a  
volcano.**

**Eating your  
model system.**

**Eating your  
model  
organism.**

**Your pervy  
advisor.**

**Steven  
Hawking  
talking dirty.**

**John Gurdon's  
hair.**

**Taking shots  
from the 70%  
ethanol.**

**Falsifying data.**

**Herpes.**

**Sequencing  
your own DNA.**

**Watching fruit  
flies having  
sex.**

**Spit in a tube.**

**Weigh mouse  
poop.**

**Gonads.**

**Blowing shit  
up.**

**Stashing a six-  
pack in the lab  
fridge.**

**Indescribable  
frustration.**

**Growing pot in  
the  
greenhouse.**

**Getting  
stopped by  
airport security  
because of the  
chemicals on  
your shoes.**

**"The Elements"  
by Tom Lehrer.**

**p=0.06.**

**A spider the  
size of your  
face.**

**An everted  
seastar  
stomach.**

**A new state of  
matter.**

**Pornographic  
looking cloud.**

**Untethered  
spacewalk.**

**Plasma surfing  
on solar flares.**

**Exploitative  
advisor.**

**Measuring the  
diameter of a  
penguin's anus  
and winning an  
Ignobel for the  
trouble.**

**Bigfoot's DNA  
sequence.**

**The Ablation  
Cascade.**

**Self-  
Replicating  
Mystery Meat.**

**Dihydrogen  
Monoxide.**

**A  
supermassive  
black hole with  
a taste for  
human blood.**

**A back of the  
envelope  
calculation.**

**My major  
professor.**

**Confirmation  
bias.**

**Long, rambling  
questions after  
a conference  
talk.**

**Satellites.**

**A human  
subject (i.e.  
myself).**

**My messy lab.**

**Reviewers.**

**Highly cited  
papers.**

**Distracting  
grammatical  
errors.**

**The scientific  
method.**

**Diuretic  
shellfish  
poisoning.**

**All the ethanol  
went missing.**

**Pythagoras's  
NEW theorem.**

**Because the  
Bible says so.**

**Birdemic.**

**That's a big  
pipette.**

**Texas  
textbooks.**

**We're gonna  
need a bigger  
fulcrum.**

**Not enough  
replicates.**

**Antibiotic-  
resistant  
gonorrhea.**

**Spontaneous  
combustion of  
fecal matter.**

**An analytic  
solution of the  
Navier-Stokes  
equation as  
applied to  
explosive  
diarrhea.**

**Blowfish.**

**Hearing a  
number such  
as 10000 and  
wondering  
what it is in  
binary.**

**Watching a  
baseball game  
and plotting  
trajectories in  
your head.**

**Sprinkling salt  
on sliced  
tomatoes and  
thinking,  
"Osmosis at  
work!"**

**Speaking out  
loud in  
chemical  
formulas. To  
yourself.**

**Cloacal  
protuberance.**

**Cloacal kiss.**

**Great tits.**



**Amphiphile.**

**Electrical fires.**

**Undergrads.**

**Liquid nitrogen.**

**Traumatic  
insemination.**

**Sequential  
hermaphrodit-  
ism.**

**Killer cells.**

**Protein  
injection.**

**Static  
electricity.**

**Gravity ripples.**

**Serial  
monogamy.**

**Regression to  
the mean.**

**Total Maximum  
Daily Load.**

**Contagious  
yawning.**

**Awkward lab  
parties.**

**Legless lizards.**

**Physics envy.**

**Arachnophobic  
entomologists.**

**Topological  
insulators.**

**Brain-eating  
proteins.**

**Brems-  
strahlung.**

**Prostate  
dysfunction.**

**H5N1  
pandemic avian  
flu.**

**Leaky barrels  
of nuclear  
waste.**

**Mind-bending  
quantum  
paradoxes.**

**In precise  
terms, deady,  
deady, dead  
dead.**

**Just some  
goddamn cells,  
ok?**

**The God  
Delusion.**

**Shitty verbal on  
the GRE.**

**The moon.**

**Vaginal  
secretions.**

**The footnotes.**

**A horrifying cat  
that is both  
dead and alive.**

**The  
unparalleled  
genius of  
Albert  
Einstein's ball  
sack.**

**Climate change  
denial.**

**Another  
goddam  
postdoc.**

**Bill Nye's  
bowtie.**

**High-fiving a  
robot arm.**

**Mercury  
fulminate  
disguised as  
crystal meth.**

**A mouse  
growing a  
human ear on  
its back.**

**A research  
monkey that is  
smarter than  
the lab  
assistant.**

**Pouring liquid  
nitrogen down  
the back of  
someone's  
shirt.**

**A lab mouse  
that simply  
refuses to die.**

**Stain-covered  
lab coats.**

**Koko the  
gorilla's  
kittens.**

**An illegibly  
labeled  
specimen.**

**Melting sea ice.**

**Agar shot**

**A cooler  
of feces.**

**The cost  
of  
reagents.**

**All these  
body  
parts.**

**An IACUC  
meeting.**

**An  
incubator  
full of  
bees.**

**The federal  
shutdown.**

**The odds  
of getting  
a grant.**

**Frog  
trampolines.**

**The  
Promotion  
and Tenure  
Committee.**

**Annual  
Reports.**



**A -80  
freezer  
failure.**

**Anoxic  
sediment.**

**Manure-  
induced  
asphyxia.**

**Publishing.**

**Water  
Quality  
Parameters.**

**The  
Department  
of Natural  
Resources.**

**The  
department  
van.**

**Friggin'  
trees.**

**I should  
be  
writing.**

**Citizen  
Science.**

**Pipetting  
until your  
fingers  
are numb.**

**Applied  
math.**

**Models.**

**Raw  
sewage.**

**Internal  
organs.**

**Academic  
Twitter.**

**#SciComm**

**Bees?**

**Global  
Weirding.**

**Impostor  
syndrome.**

**Pornithology.**

**Bird  
fembots.**

**Rapid  
Unscheduled  
Disassembly.**

**Chlorine  
Trifluoride  
(ClF<sub>3</sub>).**

**E. coli.**

**Renovation-  
induced  
asbestosis.**

**Facilities  
Management.**

**That stain  
on the lab  
couch.**

**Continental  
climate.**

**Field  
season.**

**Another  
lake.**

**Friggin'  
varmint.**

**Untrustworthy  
cows.**

**A broken  
solar  
panel.**

**ISCOs.**

**Bioremediation.**

**Nitrogen.**

**STEM.**

**STEAM.**

Unidentified  
remains.

**An owl  
pellet.**

Forgetting  
the tape  
measure.

**Survey  
flags!**

**GIS.**

**R.**

**Matlab.**

**Two flat  
tires in  
the field.**

**Running  
out of  
gas.**

**What-  
about-  
ism.**

**Climate  
deniers.**

Biogeochemistry.

Sustainability.

**Industry  
partners.**

**Geo-  
engineering.**

**Beer.**

**Fungus.**

**Negative  
results.**

**$P \geq 0.051$**

**$R^2=1$**

**That one  
undergrad.**

**A P-card.**

**Construction.**

**Earlier  
today it  
ate itself.**

**Failure.**

**Snails?**

**A clever  
octopus.**

**Frogs.**

**Bioindicators.**

**A shmoo.**



**Compressed  
gases.**

**99.999%  
Ethanol.**

**The Least  
Publishable  
Unit.**

**Administrative  
paperwork.**

**A hiring  
committee.**

**Research.**

**Teaching.**

**A horse.**

**The random  
parts bin.**

**Organization.**

**Media  
attention.**

**Machine  
Learning.**

**Recursion.**

**Computer  
Scientists.**

**Supercomputers.**

**My  
collaborators.**

**My  
students.**

**My lab.**

**My  
department  
head.**

**My  
mentoring  
committee.**

**My college.**

**My dean.**

**My subject  
librarian.**

**My  
department  
accountant.**

**My  
department  
administrator.**

**My DGS.**

**My thesis.**

**My  
dissertation.**

**My last  
paper.**

**My favorite  
café to work  
in.**

**Mim's.**

**Lori's.**

**A mysterious  
discoloration.**

**Coffee.**

**More coffee.**

**My caffeine  
level.**

**My h-index.**

**Botflies.**

**International  
courses in  
areas prone  
to volcanism.**

**Lyme  
disease.**

**Mosquitoes  
the size of  
sparrows.**

**Ticks!**

**Malaria.**

**Phrenology.**

**A test tube  
of Nitrogen  
Triiodide.**

**Hot dish.**

**Safety  
glasses.**

**Laser  
cutting PVC.**

**Decaf.**

**A cat lying  
on my  
keyboard.**

**Plot fees.**

**Prefamulated  
amulite.**

**Falling off a  
cliff.**

**A 55 gallon drum  
of HCl (conc.).**

**A faulty  
outlet.**

**Alpha  
centauri.**

**Exoplanets.**

**Super-  
earths.**

**A parsec.**

**The passive  
voice.**

**Passive-  
aggressive  
post-it  
notes on lab  
equipment.**

**Reviewers.**

**Nicknames  
on  
conference  
nametags.**

**My Twitter  
presence.**

**My personal  
vehicle.**

**Liability  
waivers.**

**Informed  
consent.**

**Low Earth  
Orbit.**

**Cubesats.**

**A ball of  
flame on the  
ISS.**

**3D Printers.**

**A fried  
circuit  
board.**

**A car  
battery.**

**Golf ball  
sized hail.**

**Snow.**

**An  
autoclave  
with a leaky  
seal.**

**An  
autoclave.**

**A pressure  
washer.**

**All the leaf  
blowers.**

**Suction.**

**Gametes.**

**Thorns.**

**A friendly  
goat.**

**A hawk  
attacking  
your field  
apparatus.**

**Territorial  
birds.**

**A skunk.**

**An overly  
friendly  
porcupine.**

**Sutures.**

**A tetanus  
shot.**

**Rabies.**

**Marauding  
raccoons.**

**A ping-pong  
ball.**

**Tracking  
collars.**

**A GPS with  
a dead  
battery.**

**No signal.**

**Podcasts.**

Noise-  
cancelling  
headphones.

More time.

Orbital  
debris.

A busted  
seismograph.

Ground-  
penetrating  
radar.

A Native  
American  
burial  
mound.

A Secchi  
disk.

Too many  
drones.

Fishing for  
science.

Canoes.

Heat stroke.

Frostbite.

A personal  
floatation  
device.

Hypothermia.

Urine as  
clear as a  
mountain  
stream.

Dehydration.

**A water  
bottle used  
to store a  
sample.**

**A very long  
stick.**

**An  
endoscope.**

**Expensive  
equipment  
on a flimsy  
old rope.**

**A storm  
drain.**

**Poisonous  
herps.**

**Venomous  
snakes.**

**A cute  
turtle.**

**Wildlife.**

**A Fermi  
approximation.**

**Microsoft  
products.**

**Spreadsheets.**

**My lab  
notebook.**

**The mating  
habits of *Anas*  
*platyrhynchos*.**

**Phospholipid  
bilayers.**

***Metasequoia*  
*glyptostroboides*.**



**My  
building's  
cockroach  
colony.**

**Surplus.**

**That one  
dumpster  
with the  
good lab  
equipment.**

**Whiteboard  
hands.**

**A plethora  
of display  
adapters,  
none of  
which is the  
right one.**

**A belt  
buckle with  
the NSF  
logo on it.**

**Panic!**

**Remote  
Sensing.**

**A hamster  
running in  
its wheel.**

**Soil, not dirt.**

**Rocks.**

**Robots!**

**Mountain  
Dew.**

**Red Bull.**

**My office  
booze  
stash.**

**My office  
chocolate  
stash.**

**April fools  
day pranks.**

**Zenodo.**

**GitHub.**

**Open  
access.**

**Crowdfunding.**

**The lab  
fridge.**

**A flock of  
angry  
geese!**

**Rednecks  
with  
shotguns.**

**An American  
flag draped over  
instrumentation.**

**Fire.**