Nature in the boardest sense is the physical world or universe.

The word *nature* is borrowed from the [Old French](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Old_French) *nature* and is derived from the [Latin](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Latin) word *natura*, or "essential qualities, innate disposition", and in ancient times, literally meant "[birth](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Birth)".[[2]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nature#cite_note-etymonline-nature-2) In ancient philosophy, *natura* is mostly used as the Latin translation of the Greek word *[physis](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Physis" \o "Physis)* (φύσις), which originally related to the intrinsic characteristics of plants, animals, and other features of the world to develop of their own accord.