

North Shore Science League  
Event Description

## ***Carolus Linnaeus Needs a Vacation*** (Don't we all?)



The Father of Taxonomy has been working hard and now he needs a vacation. While on vacation he sees a variety of organisms in need of classification. Upon his return to Sweden he finds a bunch of students from the local North Shore Science League eager to help with the classification of his discoveries.

This event requires students to identify (kingdom to species) organisms associated with holidays representing a variety of religions and cultures. Subcategories (such as subphyla vertebrata) will not be included. Groups will be given a packet with a description of the holiday, the common name of an organism and the context of the organism in the holiday. So let's say in preparing this event it is discovered that people on one of the Cape Verde Islands for no apparent reason have a yearly holiday celebrating the Leopard. Your team would classify the leopard as: Animalia, Chordata, Mammalia, Carnivora, Felidae, *Panther pardus*. The relationship between the score you receive and the size of the taxonomic group is inverse. You get 1 point for each correct kingdom, 2 points for phylum, 3 points for class, 4 points for order, 5 for family, 6 for genus, and 7 for species. If everything is right you get a total of 28 points for that organism. You will need to classify between 10 and 20 organisms (The exact number is yet to be determined). Most chefs recommend cooking the Thanksgiving stuffing and turkey separate due to a risk of food poisoning. Do you know the classification of the organism responsible for most cases of food poisoning? How about the Russet Potato? Cranberry Sauce Anyone? No references will be allowed. Oh Boy, This is going to be fun for every *Homo sapien*. To keep things "simple" and consistent we will use the traditional and not very up-to-date Five Kingdom Paradigm. So far there are not a lot of holidays celebrating Archaeobacteria. Give it time.