Selection criteria

The criteria for selection are scientific excellence, originality and interest across disciplines within biology. The Editor is responsible for all editorial decisions and she makes these decisions based on the reports received from the referees and/or Editorial Board members. Many more good proposals and articles are submitted to us than we have space to print, we give preference to those that are of broad interest and of high scientific quality.

Publishing format

Phil. Trans. R. Soc. B articles are published regularly online and in print issues twice a month. Along with all Royal Society journals, we are committed to archiving and providing perpetual access. The journal also offers the facility for including Electronic Supplementary Material (ESM) to papers. Contents of the ESM might include details of methods, derivations of equations, large tables of data, DNA sequences and computer programs. However, the printed version must include enough detail to satisfy most non-specialist readers. Supplementary data up to 10Mb is placed on the Society's website free of charge. Larger datasets must be deposited in recognised public domain databases by the author.

Conditions of publication

Articles must not have been published previously, nor be under consideration for publication elsewhere. The main findings of the article should not have been reported in the mass media. Like many journals, *Phil. Trans. R. Soc. B* employs a strict embargo policy where the reporting of a scientific article by the media is embargoed until a specific time. The Editor has final authority in all matters relating to publication.

Electronic Submission details

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Cover image: A cubist version of the familiar 'blue marble' photo of Earth, taken by Apollo 17 astronauts in 1972. Cubism tears apart, analyses, and reconstructs an object so that the object is now viewed from multiple viewpoints. Like cubism, biogeography and ecology each seek to build a cohesive model of the natural world from its analysed parts, but do so from different viewpoints that may be combined for a more complete understanding. Image courtesy of David G. Jenkins, University of Central Florida.