Curiosity (Scientific Definition)

Curiosity in science refers to the motivation to investigate phenomena without a predetermined application, driven by the intrinsic desire to understand how nature works.

Traits of Curiosity-Driven Research

- Open-ended, question-focused
- No immediate clinical or practical goal
- May lead to paradigm-shifting insights
- Often the origin of future translational innovations

Example

Engineering a protein tag system to sort molecules into EVs is curiosity-driven. Using that system to treat glioblastoma is translational.

Related Terms

- translational research
- engineering_flair

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