



Disease and Prevention Resources from PBS

Lesson Plans

Big Apple History – Epidemic!

http://pbskids.org/bigapplehistory/parentsteachers/life_lesson4.html

Grade Level: 3-8

Explore conditions that led to disease in immigrant ghettos of the past and public health measures taken. Research a recent epidemic in one's own school, and consider public health measures that may stop this from happening again.

NewsHour Extra – 2009 H1N1 Flu: The Next Pandemic?

http://www.pbs.org/newshour/extra/teachers/lessonplans/health/jan-june09/swine_flu.html

Grade Level: 9-12

Investigate the threat posed by the H1N1 flu, or swine flu, virus. Understand what viruses are and how they are spread, and examine the process used for developing disease-fighting vaccines.

NewsHour Extra – Bird Flu: The Next Pandemic?

<http://www.pbs.org/newshour/extra/teachers/lessonplans/health/birdflu.html>

Grade Level: 9-12

Explain what viruses are, and simulate how they spread from person to person. Conduct research about the bird flu, the development of a bird flu vaccine and the threat of a world-wide pandemic.

NOVA scienceNOW: 1918 Flu

http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/teachers/activities/3318_02_nsn.html

Grade Level: 6-12

Explore how an infectious disease can spread through a human population. Examine how preventive measures help defend against infection, and consider ways that infectious diseases can be prevented, controlled or cured.

Secrets of the Dead: Killer Flu – Identifying Viruses

http://www.pbs.org/wnet/secrets/previous_seasons/lessons/lp_virus.html

Grade Level: 6-12

Describe a virus and how it infects its host, and research the 1918 influenza pandemic. Simulate the creation of a DNA fingerprint and analyze how scientists use them in identifying mystery viruses.

Offline Activities/Projects

NOVA scienceNOW: Pandemic Flu

http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/teachers/viewing/3302_04_nsn.html

Grade Level: 6-12

Identify illnesses that viruses and bacteria can cause and examine the structure of influenza A viruses. Explore how viruses replicate in a cell and learn how RNA can reassort when a person is infected simultaneously with an avian and a human virus.

PBS Teachers – Community Health Activity Pack

<http://www.pbs.org/teachers/activitypacks/health/communityhealth.html>

Grade Level: 3-12

Gauge your community's health, investigate the impact of rising health care costs and what can be done in response, and consider the role the media plays in shaping our attitudes and actions.

Sid the Science Kid: Clean It Up!

<http://pbskids.org/sid/parentsteachers/activities.html?cleanitup>

Grade Level: PreK-2

Experiment with different methods for hand-washing. Use a magnifying glass to examine hands and evaluate each method to discover which technique works best.

Interactives

Fetch: Germinator

<http://pbskids.org/fetch/games/germinator/index.html>

Grade Level: 2-8

Learn about how the body's immune systems defend against germs. Play Ruff Ruffman's favorite interactive game, taking the part of a germ trying to infiltrate a human body while avoiding immune systems along the way.

Secrets of the Dead: Killer Flu – Caught the Flu?

http://www.pbs.org/wnet/secrets/previous_seasons/lessons/lp_virus.html

Grade Level: 6-12

Trace the evolution of an influenza virus from its natural source to a world-wide pandemic.

Sesame Street: Elmo Goes to the Doctor

<http://pbskids.org/sesame/#/games>

Grade PreK-K

Follow Elmo to the doctor's office. Discover how getting healthy doesn't need to be a scary experience.

ZOOM – Flu Survey Results

http://pbskids.org/zoom/fromyou/survey/flu_index.html

Grade Level: K-5

Analyze the results of the Zoom national survey on the flu season, and make conclusions about the results.

Videos

DragonflyTV: Glo Germ

<http://pbskids.org/dragonflytv/show/glogerm.html>

Grade Level: 3-8

Explore how germs are spread. Watch kids use the scientific method to figure out how they can avoid spreading germs and viruses to their friends and families.

NOVA scienceNOW: 1918 Flu

<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/sciencenow/3318/02.html>

Grade Level: 6-12

Running Time: 00:13:09

Learn about the virus that caused the 1918 influenza pandemic. Discover how a virulent flu virus spreads and what makes it so virulent.

NOVA scienceNOW: Pandemic Flu

<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/sciencenow/3302/04.html>

Grade Level: 6-12

Running Time: 00:06:25

Discover how the bird flu infects people, explore how it is spread and consider the dangers of the bird flu. Investigate how viral-RNA copying mistakes might give rise to a bird virus that can pass from human to human.

Secrets of the Dead: Killer Flu – Video Clip 1

http://www.pbs.org/wnet/secrets/previous_seasons/lessons/lp_virus_videos.html

Grade Level: 6-12

Running Time: 00:03:56

Consider how a fragile virus such as influenza can manage to be the most deadly disease known to humankind, including the 1918 pandemic - the worst in the world's history. Learn why it is important to study past outbreaks of the virus.

Secrets of the Dead: Killer Flu – Video Clip 2

http://www.pbs.org/wnet/secrets/previous_seasons/lessons/lp_virus_videos.html

Grade Level: 6-12

Running Time: 00:03:47

Learn about the spread and death toll of the 1918 influenza pandemic. Consider what scientists today infer from the evidence of the strange color of victims' skin and the fact that the disease seemed to target healthy young adults.

Secrets of the Dead: Killer Flu – Video Clip 3

http://www.pbs.org/wnet/secrets/previous_seasons/lessons/lp_virus_videos.html

Grade Level: 6-12

Running Time: 00:02:44

Investigate the biology and life cycle of the influenza virus. Discover how the cyclical nature of viral mutations makes it probable the avian flu pandemic of 1918 could recur.

Sid the Science Kid: Clean it Up! Germ Investigation

http://pbskids.org/sid/#/VideoPlayer-Clean_It_Up

Grade Level: PreK-2

Running Time: 00:01:32

Discover how clean hands prevent the spread of germs. Investigate the differences between two techniques for cleaning dirty hands.

Sid the Science Kid: The Journey of a Germ

http://pbskids.org/sid/#/VideoPlayer-The_Journey_Of_A_Germ

Grade Level: PreK-2

Running Time: 00:01:32

Discover how germs travel from person to person. Follow one germ as it travels around the world from unwashed hand to unwashed hand.

Articles

PBS Parents: Talking with Kids About News

<http://www.pbs.org/parents/talkingwithkids/news/>

Develop strategies for discussing today's headlines. Get age-by-age insights, learn how to calm kids' fears, and find discussion starters.

PBS Parents: Talking with Kids About Health

<http://www.pbs.org/parents/talkingwithkids/health/>

Find age-by-age strategies for communicating with sick kids, getting kids to take their medicine, and getting better and staying healthy. Also explore a kid-friendly medical dictionary to help explain medical terms using words kids understand.