

Speed Dating with Infectious Disease Agents!

Introduction

In this activity you will explore the different types of pathogens as well as examining specific examples of each type in order to identify what is plaguing Anna. There are six major types of infectious agents: *bacteria, viruses, fungi, protozoa, helminthes, and prions*. You will investigate a variety of diseases caused by these infectious agents.

Equipment

- Computer with Internet access
- Laboratory journal
- Speed dating sheet

Procedure

1. Your teacher will assign you an infectious agent for you to research. Obtain a blank index card to fill in with your agent’s likes and dislikes.
2. Obtain a speed dating sheet.
3. You will be assigned a number if you are a 1 you will stay in the center circle. If you are a 2 you will rotate around the outside. 1’s stay still 2’s rotate.
4. When the bell sounds you have three minutes to introduce “yourself” and discuss your information from your research.
 - a. **What’s your name?** name of the disease or the actual agent of infection. For example, tuberculosis is caused by the bacterium *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*.
 - b. **What’s your sign?** which of the six types of infectious agent are you?
 - c. **Hobbies** what symptoms do you cause?
 - d. **Favorite hangouts** where does the agent live or where can it be found
 - e. **Turn Ons** what allows the agent to spread or grow?
 - f. **Turn Offs** what fights off the agent or destroys it?
 - g. **Fun fact** could be anything like how many people are infected each year? What kind of disease does it cause? Did it have an impact on history?

What’s your name?	What’s your sign?	Hobbies	Favorite Hangouts	Turn Ons	Turn Offs	Fun Facts
<i>E. coli</i>	Bacteria	Diarrhea, vomiting	The digestive tract, under cooked meat, warm moist places	I love it when people forget to use good food handling techniques like forgetting to fully cook their ground beef.	I hate good sanitation and antibiotics	<i>E. coli</i> O157:H7 can cause hemolytic uremic syndrome leading to kidney failure