

Teaching About COVID-19

If you relish the “teachable moment,” sadly, we’re in the midst of a great one. Here is an opportunity to use authentic content and relevancy, as well as place-based education.

In keeping with the [Next Generation Science Standards](#), set up a discussion where your students can ask their own questions, and then let them search for the answers as individuals or in groups. Here are some questions for which you would want them to know the answers; hopefully their questions align. There are so many other questions to be asked and answered. Adjust for your grade level, topic and student interest. As always, don’t be afraid to tackle questions for which you don’t know the answers. We are life-long-learners, so let’s model that to our students.

1. What is a disease? How do diseases spread? What can we do to limit the spread of disease?
2. What is a pandemic and why do pandemics occur?
3. What are the differences between viruses and bacteria? What other microbes cause disease?
4. What is a pathogen?
5. What are other diseases caused by viruses?





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6. How do we treat viral infections? How does this differ from treatments for bacterial infection?
 7. How are vaccines developed? What are antibiotics and how are they used? How were they discovered and developed?
 8. Many microbes are necessary for our own health and well-being. Investigate this idea.
 9. What do microbes look like? How do we study them?
 10. What careers involve studying microbes?
 11. How do we predict the spread of a disease? What is modeling?
 12. What careers involve helping people fight disease?

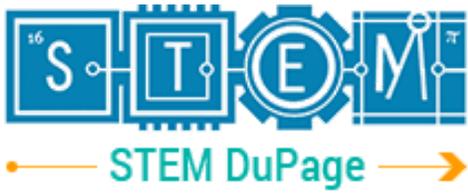


Resources to Help Teach About COVID-19

Use them directly and/or to spark an idea.

- Scientific American [The Coronavirus Outbreak](#)
- Science Daily [Latest Research News](#)
- [Coronavirus Resource Center](#) at Johns Hopkins University & Medicine. Discuss data, analysis, modeling and statistics with students.
- [Course modules](#) from Johns Hopkins University & Medicine, high school +
- National Science Teaching Association (NSTA) [Elementary Resources](#)
- NSTA [Middle School](#) +
- SEPA [Infectious Diseases curriculum](#)





- [Statistics in the News](#) a math lesson
- [Simulation of disease spread](#) using models
- [Resources collected](#) by teachers in the Salt Lake City School District
- [Articles & resources](#) chosen by editors of Scholastic Magazine, multiple grade levels
- [Infectious Disease: Superbugs, Science & Society](#) disease transmission activity and others

