

Part Two - Research

Activity adapted from <http://labs.7bscience.com/lab-5---bacteria-wanted-poster.html>

You will use online resources to help you learn about your bacteria and disease.

1. Scientific name (First letter of the bacteria's first name is always capitalized)
2. Identify the disease it causes.
3. Find a photo of the bacteria.
4. Identify the shape of this bacteria and tell if it's Gram Positive or Gram Negative.
5. Where can this bacteria be normally found?
6. How does one get infected/sick? How does the bacteria spread?
7. Who usually gets sick with this disease? Who are it's usual victims?
8. Name signs and symptoms of the disease.
9. What should a victim do if he/she gets the disease

How to find credible resources:

It is very, very important that you gather your information from credible sources. A credible source is one that can be trusted with the information posted. Since nearly anyone can publish a web site, information found online can be incorrect. How do you find credible information?

- Look for site published by universities (often end in .edu), government agencies (often end in .gov), or well known institutions (ex: Mayo Clinic). You can also use online encyclopedias (ex: Britannica), but you often have to pay for access. You might find the CDC site helpful. <http://www.cdc.gov/>

- Look for articles that are sourced. This means they list where they got their information. Are their sources credible? Then it's a safe bet that the information in the article is valid.

- Look for articles that have actual names attached to them. For example, if there is no author or if the author's name is a username (ex: ilikescience1995), you should reconsider the source.

- Avoid Wikipedia as a source. I know: you love Wikipedia. So do I! But, anyone can edit the information. You are welcome to use Wikipedia as a starting point. But, don't rely on it as an academic source. If the site makes a claim ex: "20% of Americans are infected each year by this bacteria" and it has a source, go to the source and verify the information. Get the information from the sources. Just make sure the source is valid.

Does these steps guarantee you'll find only credible sources? No. But, students have found these guidelines helpful in identifying sites with valid information. If you're unsure, ask your teacher and they'll be able to help you.

Keep track of your sources using this format:

Title of Page, URL, Date Accessed

ie: Plague, <http://www.cdc.gov/plague/>, 4/16/2014

Anthrax, <http://www.cdc.gov/anthrax/basics/index.html>, 4/16/201