

Name: _____ Date: _____

Answer Key: Invisible Kingdom Challenge: 5th Grade Microbe Hunters

Learners practice basic recall to identify microbes in yogurt, sourdough, and backyard ponds while recognizing how tiny organisms impact their daily lives.

1. Which of these tiny organisms is often used by bakers to help bread dough rise and become fluffy?

Answer: B) Yeast

Yeast is a tiny fungus that eats sugar and releases carbon dioxide gas, which creates bubbles in bread dough.

2. True or False: All bacteria are germs that make people sick.

Answer: B) False

Many bacteria are actually helpful, like the ones in your stomach that help you digest food or the ones used to make yogurt.

3. A student looking at pond water sees a tiny, green, plant-like organism called _____. It uses sunlight to stay alive.

Answer: A) Algae

Algae are microscopic organisms that contain chlorophyll, allowing them to make their own food through photosynthesis just like plants.

4. What special tool does a scientist need to use to see a single bacterium?

Answer: C) Microscope

Microscopes use powerful lenses to zoom in on things that are too small for the human eye to see.

5. True or False: Viruses are so small that they are even smaller than most bacteria.

Answer: A) True

Viruses are much smaller than bacteria and usually require a special electron microscope to be seen.

6. Which of these is a common 'home' for microscopic organisms in nature?

Answer: D) All of the above

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Microbes live almost everywhere on Earth, including water, soil, and on the surfaces of plants and animals.

7. The _____ is a blob-like microbe that moves by stretching its body out and pulling itself forward.

Answer: B) Amoeba

Amoebas are single-celled organisms that change their shape to move and catch food.

8. If you leave an orange on the counter for too long and it grows fuzzy green spots, which microbe is likely growing on it?

Answer: A) Mold

Mold is a type of microscopic fungus that grows on food as it begins to decay.

9. True or False: Microbes help turn dead leaves into rich soil for a garden.

Answer: A) True

Decomposers like bacteria and fungi break down dead material, recycling nutrients back into the earth.

10. When you wash your hands with soap, you are trying to remove harmful _____, which are tiny microbes that can cause sickness.

Answer: B) Germs

Germs is a common word used to describe microscopic bacteria or viruses that can cause infections.