

Student Directions

UNIT: CHIKUNGUNYA

LESSON 4: GATHERING EVIDENCE AGAINST CHIKV

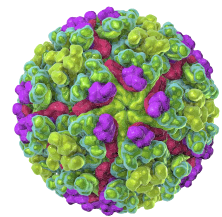
Activity 4A: Emergency Bulletin! Fighting CHIKV Starts with Me!



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Activity Summary

You have been assigned to a collaborative research team and will take on the role of a specific profession that investigates how viruses spread and how communities can respond to protect public health. As a team, carefully read and analyze the background information connected to your assigned topic and professional perspective. Use the information you read to develop an accurate understanding of your role in addressing viral outbreaks. Then, create a Public Service Announcement (PSA) that educates and informs your community about your findings in an engaging and creative way. Your PSA should clearly communicate important scientific information while encouraging public awareness and action.



CHIKV Virus

Materials

- › Transformed CHIKV article
- › Student background
- › Chart Paper
- › Markers/ Colored Pencils
- › Thought Catcher



In this group assignment, group members will act as professionals within a specific career. After reading an article about **chikungunya virus (CHIKV)**, your group of “professionals” are tasked to create a public service announcement (PSA) for the local community about CHIKV. To help prepare for creating the PSA, consult the chart which contains information about each group’s assigned profession.

After reading through the transformed CHIKV article, discuss the article with your group, highlighting and/or marking sections that pertain to your specific profession.

Review the **PSA Choice Board** with your group and select which type of PSA your group wishes to create. Use the chart paper, markers/colored pencils to make a rough draft of your PSA. When the draft is complete, show it to your teacher for approval to proceed.

The **Thought Catcher** will be used to “catch” specific “thoughts” presented by a specific group.

MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL LEVEL

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Group 1: Epidemiologists. Create awareness about how the Chikungunya Virus is transmitted.

Group 2: Physicians. Explain what a patient experiences when they contract Chikungunya Virus, including symptoms and long-term body effects.

Group 3: Community Health Advocates. Inform about and recommend preventative measures.

Group 4: Environmental Virologist. Discuss where Chikungunya is from and why its geographic range is growing.

Group 5: Immunologists. Elaborate on how the immune system responds to Chikungunya Virus and discuss how human and murine immune systems react differently and the potential risks.



Epidemiologist

An **epidemiologist** is a scientist or public health professional who studies how diseases and health conditions spread, who they affect, and how they can be prevented or controlled.



Physician

A **physician** is a licensed medical professional who practices medicine to promote, maintain, and restore health. They are trained to diagnose illnesses, prescribe treatments, manage chronic diseases, and perform surgeries.



Community Health Advocate

A **community health advocate** is a person who helps improve the health and well-being of people within a community. They often work with residents, healthcare providers, government agencies, schools, nonprofits, and other organizations to address local health needs.



Environmental Virologist

An **environmental virologist** studies how viruses persist, spread, and interact within natural ecosystems, such as water, soil, and air. They focus on viral ecology, tracking how environmental factors affect transmission, mapping microbial communities, and providing baseline data to assess public health threats and inform environmental policies.



Immunologist

An **immunologist** is a scientist or physician who specializes in the immune system—the body's defense against infections, diseases, and foreign substances.

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