

SAMPLE LESSON PLAN – NEISSERIA MENINGITIDIS

5-10 YEARS



OBJECTIVE

- Learn what germs (bacteria or virus) are.
- Understand the difference between a bacteria and virus.
- Understand that some germs can make us ill.
- Understand what a vaccine is.
- What is meningitis and how it makes our body feel.
- Understand how meningitis is spread and how to help prevent.

FACT CARD SIDE A

INTRODUCTION

1. Commence the lesson with a 'KWL' chart:
 - a. What do we know about bacteria/ Meningitis?
 - b. What would you like to learn about them?
2. Explain to the class what a germ/bacteria is (tiny little invaders that can make our bodies sick are called call germs). Explain to the class that a 'germ' is an everyday word that refers to a bacteria or virus than can make you sick.
3. Explain that sometimes germs can be harmful to humans. Ask them do they know what the word bacteria or virus means?
4. Explain to the children that a disease or infections is when something bad happens to your body because of a harmful germ.
5. Explain we can't see the meningitis bacteria because it's so tiny.
6. "Think-pair-share":
 - a. Ask the children can they think of ways there are to stop germs spreading? Share their ideas with their peers and their class
 - b. Ask them what words come to their mind when we say the word germ or bug
7. Explain the class that harmful bugs can spread easily from one person to another and these bugs can cause an infection in our body or make our body not feel so well but that there is a way to stop this through-vaccination.
8. Show video Spiky, Dr Áine, Nurse Tom to the rescue to prevent this bacteria or other germs (bacteria or virus) from making us ill.
9. Explain what a vaccine is – *a vaccines is a medicine that can help us from getting sick from some diseases.*
 - a. New vocabulary: vaccination. *Has anyone ever heard of this word before?*

ACTIVITY

1. Explain meningococcal symptoms to children, reference to fact card.
2. Use fill in the blanks on body map to label part of body with meningitis symptoms (*older children*) Symptoms: headache, neck stiffness, sensitive to light (sore eyes), rash, temperature.
 - a. Younger children could use a crayon to colour in the parts of the body that can be affected with meningitis symptoms.
3. Paper plate cut out and colour of meningococcal bacteria and Spiky, can be used as prop to act out how vaccination works in our body.
4. Narrated mime - whole class role play of steps the children can take to prevent Meningitis.
 - a. Sneeze into arm or tissue
 - b. Cover mouth when coughing, cough into arm
 - c. Dispose of tissue after use
 - d. Wash hands after coughing
5. Hand washing technique, demo, clean hands work sheet to be completed post washing hands.
6. Complete Super Sneezer Word Search (*older children*).

LEARNING RECAP

Complete KWL chart - What have we learnt?

1. What is meningitis?
2. What causes it?
3. How can we help stop spreading it – vaccination and preventive activities?

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HERO**