

West Nile Virus

By Julie McGlynn, Central Bucks High School West, Doylestown, PA

After completing this activity you will have learned all about this local disease, including who is at risk, and that when properly recognized and treated, West Nile Virus is completely controllable.

First Activity:

****Go to the Center for Disease Control of Atlanta's website at:***

<http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dybid/westnile/index.htm>

(Click on Prevention information)

Answer the following questions:

- 1. How can one prevent West Nile Virus?***
- 2. What chemical should you make sure is in your bug repellent in order to keep mosquitoes away?***
- 3. What should you make sure is NOT in your bug repellent?***
- 4. At what times during the day are peak mosquito times?***

Second Activity:

****Go to a West Nile Virus Information web site at:***

<http://edcp.org/html/wn.html>

Answer the following questions:

- 5. What is encephalitis?***
- 6. How is West Nile Virus transmitted?***
- 7. Is West Nile Virus contagious?***
- 8. What are the symptoms of West Nile Virus?***
- 9. What is the treatment for West Nile Virus?***
- 10. Who is at risk for contracting the virus?***

Third Activity:

****Go to the Mosquito Netting and West Nile Virus website to view geographic distribution at:***

<http://www.mosquito-netting.com/west-nile-virus.html>

Answer the following questions:

- 11. On what continents does West Nile Virus appear?**
- 12. In what American states has West Nile Virus been found?**

Remain on the same website, but scroll down for the answers to the following questions:

- 13. What percentage of people infected develop encephalitis?**
- 14. What percentage of West Nile Virus cases is fatal?**

Fourth Activity:

***Go to see a picture of the actual virus at:**

<http://www.mosquito-netting.com/west-nile.html>

Do the following:

- Draw and color the virus**

Fifth Activity:

***Go to Pennsylvania's West Nile Virus website at:**

<http://www.westnile.state.pa.us/>

Answer the following questions:

- 15. What year was West Nile Virus first detected in Pennsylvania?**
- 16. In what organisms was the West Nile Virus first found in Pennsylvania?**
- 17. What is our state currently doing to combat the virus?**
- 18. How many counties are involved in Pennsylvania's surveillance program?**