

Influenza Kit - Introduction to the Immune System and Influenza

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This section contains introductory information about the Immune System and the Influenza virus. The Immune System is a complex network of cells and proteins that protects the body against foreign substances which might cause disease such as bacteria, viruses and parasites. When a foreign substance such as the Influenza virus is detected in the body, the Immune System, mounts an immune response to destroy the invader. One of the key components of the immune response are antibodies, which are proteins produced by white blood cells called B cells.

A. Overview Slide Deck

Introduction to Influenza and the Immune System PPT

This is a long ppt that contains information about:

- the immune response to viral infection
- antibody model-building activity (developed by Science Education Partnership)
- influenza virus biology
- epidemiology, the branch of medicine which deals with the incidence, distribution, and possible control of diseases and other factors relating to health

B. Vaccine Resources

Historical annual reformulations of the influenza vaccine information- Wikipedia.pdf

Initial Vaccine Model Worksheet

Revising Your Vaccine Model Worksheet

Final Vaccine Model Worksheet

Who has the Flu? Worksheet

C. Virus Information and Resources

Viruses with Flu-Like Symptoms Information

Resources for tracking flu - a resource and an activity (below)

Virus Hunters test new surveillance tools

Tracking a Virus Activity

A STEAM activity - have your students draw or create a model of a virus. Photo of examples contributed by Becky Howsmon (Ballard HS)

Virus Models - student examples B Howsmon

D. Antibody Information and Resources

Antibody Gene Rearrangement Information

Antibody Coloring Activity Word Version

Antibody_Coloring_Activity ppt Version

VDJ Recombination Model Graphic

VDJ_Antibody_Coloring_Activity