



**SYNERGISTIC
SYSTEMS**

A DIVISION OF PITSCO, INC.

PARENT BRIEFING

Module

Immune System

- Define and locate structures in the body's immune system.
- Learn types of organisms that cause disease.
- Show how antibodies act to control disease.
- Learn about the history of immunology, including the development of antibiotics and vaccines.
- Solve an epidemic mystery.

Session Focus

1 Microbial Culture

2 Microscope Use

3 Nonspecific Immunity

4 White Blood Cells

5 Antigen-Antibody Reactions

6 Vaccines; Koch's Postulates

7 Antibiotics; Epidemic!

Dear Parent,

As parents and teachers, we realize it can be hard to get a child to discuss what he or she is learning in school. We hope the information provided on this page will assist you in communicating with your child about what he or she is learning.

For the next few days, your child will be learning about the body's immune system and how it protects us against disease. As your child's best teacher, your participation in the learning process is extremely important.

Words students will learn in this Module include:

- AIDS
- antibiotic
- vaccine
- immunity
- lymph nodes
- pathogen
- leukocytes
- epidemic
- communicable
- antigen
- antibody
- immunodeficiency
- infection
- allergy

Questions for discussion

During the course of this Module, your child will be assessed on key concepts and activities. You might want to discuss these concepts with your child.

He or she will be asked to:

- List and explain safety rules for working with microbes. (*Rules include washing hands and wearing vinyl gloves, wiping the workstation with disinfectant, and careful handling and disposal of cultures.*)
- Show how to focus a slide under a microscope. (*Your child must focus a microscope slide on high power, using proper technique.*)
- Distinguish between bacterial and fungal colonies, and show how bacterial colonies differ. (*On the bacterial culture that your child has grown, he or she will point out bacterial and fungal colonies, show different types of bacterial colonies, and explain that they differ in form, margin, elevation, and color.*)



Instructor: _____