



Ebola Outbreak (May 22, 2026)

TEACHING GUIDE

What? An outbreak of the Ebola virus, a rare but serious illness caused by a virus that is transmitted through contact with the bodily fluids of an infected person.

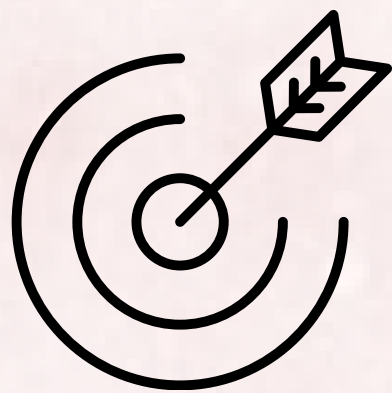
Who? The health authorities of the World Health Organization (WHO) and the medical teams treating patients on the ground.

Where? The outbreak is taking place in the Central African region.

When? The first cases appeared in late April 2026, and the outbreak was officially declared on May 15, 2026.

Why is it important? Because the Ebola virus, even though it is rare, can be fatal. It needs to be addressed quickly!

For this activity, your goal will be to learn more about the Ebola virus, and about viruses and bacteria in general.



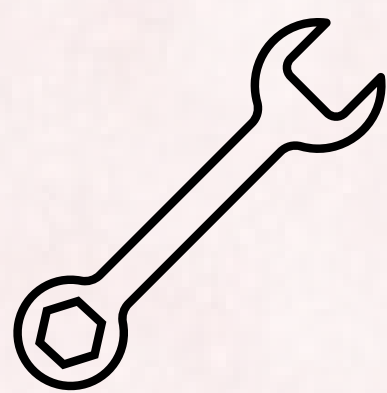
OBJECTIVES

- Locate on a map the two African countries affected by the Ebola outbreak.
- Distinguish a virus from a bacterium using simple criteria.
- Identify the viral or bacterial origin of three known diseases.
- Understand why some diseases are treated with antibiotics and others are not.
- Develop scientific reasoning skills related to diagnosis.



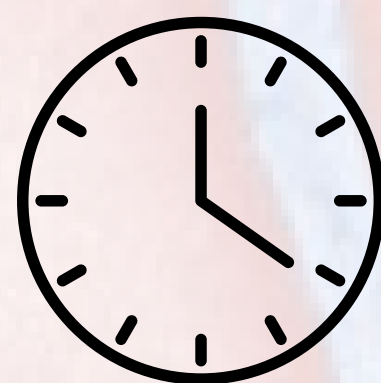
SUBJECTS

- **Social Studies / Geography**
 - The African continent
 - Map reading and cardinal directions
 - Borders and neighboring countries
- **Science and Technology**
 - Micro-organisms: viruses and bacteria
 - Infectious diseases
 - Health and prevention
- **English**
 - Reading and comprehension
 - Scientific vocabulary
 - Short and precise answers



COMPETENCIES

- Read and interpret a map
- Use a digital tool (Google Earth) to locate places
- Search for and interpret information in a video
- Organize information in a comparison table
- Make connections between different pieces of information
- Produce short and precise answers



DURATION

- Approximately 45 minutes



GETTING STARTED

- Ask students if they have ever heard of Ebola
- Ask them what infectious diseases they know (flu, COVID-19, gastro, etc.)
- Discuss the difference between an illness caused by a virus and an illness caused by bacteria
- Show a map of Africa and invite students to point out the countries they know



TEACHING GUIDE



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

STEP 1 — A Trip to Africa. Usage of a map and Google Earth, and identification of the two African countries where the Ebola outbreak is occurring.

Q1 — Sudan

Q2 — Central African Republic

Q3 — Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)

Q4 — Mozambique

Q5 — Tanzania

Q6 — Uganda

STEP 2 — Duel Under the Microscope. Viewing of a video on the differences between viruses and bacteria, then completion of a comparative table (Eight answers to place).

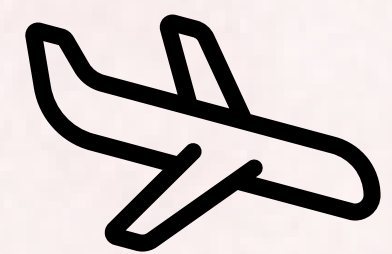
	VIRUSES	BACTERIA
Size	Much smaller	Larger microscopic organisms
Mode of reproduction	Need a host cell to reproduce	Divide by themselves
Way of living	Not considered alive, need a host	Living organisms, can live on their c
Treatment	Vaccines	Antibiotics

STEP 3 — Virus or Bacteria? Your verdict! Analyze three known illnesses and identify their origin, using the clues on each card.

Q7 — Virus (The flu is caused by the influenza virus; clue: "An annual vaccine can help protect you")

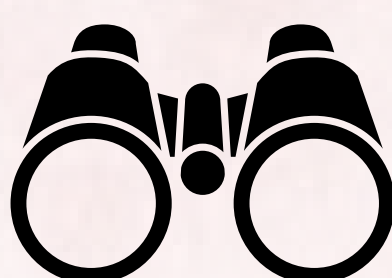
Q8 — Bacteria (Salmonellosis is caused by the Salmonella bacterium; clue: "Sometimes antibiotics are necessary")

Q9 — Virus (COVID-19 is caused by the SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus; clue: "A vaccine can help protect you")



WRAPPING UP

- Conduct a group review of what the students have learned.
- Discuss what surprised them (the microscopic size of viruses, the role of vaccines, etc.).
- Ask: Why is it important for a doctor to know whether an illness is caused by a virus or bacteria?
- Connect this to their daily lives (handwashing, vaccination, the importance of seeing a doctor).
- Discuss the role of international organizations like the WHO in protecting health worldwide.



FURTHER EXPLORATION

 Ebola 101 | National Geographic
<https://youtu.be/ob5wTekutg8?si=MKVu6IH7Bz9gWR13>



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