



# YALE NATIONAL INITIATIVE

*to strengthen teaching in public schools®*

Curriculum Units by Fellows of the National Initiative  
2024 Volume V: Evolutionary Medicine

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## Staying Healthy in Kindergarten

Guide for Curriculum Unit 24.05.02, published September 2024  
by Carol Boynton

In this three-week unit, young students become aware of disease pathogens. Two books will anchor the initial learning: *Germs vs. Soap* by Didi Dragon, a fun and funny picture book about the benefits of proper handwashing; and, *Germs Are Not For Sharing*, by Elizabeth Verdick. This book is a short course for kids on what germs are, what they do, and why it's so important to cover them up, block them from spreading, and wash them down the drain. The students will investigate the benefits (or not) of products like Purell, learn that viruses and bacteria cannot be seen until magnified under a microscope, and discover that there are many strategies for helping ourselves and each other avoid “sharing germs.”

(Developed for Science, grade K

; recommended for Science, grades K-2)

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