

Pre-Lab, Skills, and Standards Alignments

BACTERIA & ANTIBIOTICS

In this lab, two different strains of harmless bacteria are treated with two different antibiotics. After a day of growth, observation of the presence or absence of growth inhibition zones is used to determine if either of the bacterial strains is antibiotic resistant.

Lab Length: 1 hour

Suggested Pre-Lab Teaching

- Although most are harmless, some bacteria can cause infection.
- Antibiotics are prescribed to treat bacterial infections.

Lab Skills

- Conduct a controlled experiment to determine antibiotic sensitivity.
- Use a transfer pipette or micropipette to measure small volumes of liquid.
- Use sterile technique to culture bacteria in Petri dishes.

Conceptual Knowledge/Skills

- Use experimental results to determine antibiotic sensitivity.
- Describe how experimental results support a claim about antibiotic resistance.
- Explain how bacteria develop antibiotic resistance in nature.

New York State Science Learning Standards/NGSS

Science and Engineering Practices	Disciplinary Core Ideas	Cross Cutting Concepts
Analyzing and Interpreting Data Analyze and interpret data to determine similarities and differences in findings. Constructing Explanations and Designing Solutions Apply scientific ideas to construct an explanation for real-world phenomena, examples, or events. Construct an explanation that includes qualitative or quantitative relationships between variables that describe phenomena.	LS4.B Natural Selection Natural Selection can lead to an increase in the frequency of some traits and the decrease in the frequency of other traits. (MS-LS4-4) LS4.C Adaptation Adaptation by natural selection acting over generation is one important process by which species change over time in response to changes in environmental conditions. (MS-LS4-6)	Patterns Patterns can be used to identify cause and effect relationships. Cause and Effect Cause and effect relationships may be used to predict phenomena in natural or designed systems.