

Classroom Activities

10 Big Questions - How do we unravel the causes of disease?*

Growing your own fungus:

You will need:

- Piece of bread
- Resealable airtight plastic bag
- Cotton swab
- Disposable rubber gloves

Method:

Rub the cotton swab in dust on the ground and then rub the soiled end on to a piece of bread. Add six drops of water to the bread then place the bread into the plastic bag and seal it. Place the sealed bag in a dark, out of the-way area and leave for at least two days.

Try leaving the sealed bag in different places (light, dark, hot, cold) to see different types of fungus grow. Always handle the bread mould with gloves, as some people are allergic to moulds.

This classroom activity was suggested by James Bryne –PhD student in the School of Molecular and Biomedical Science, University of Adelaide.

* To find out more about the 10 Big Questions, go to:

<http://www.sciences.adelaide.edu.au/learning-teaching/10bq/>

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