

Activity

Episode 22
12th August 2014

Ebola

Key Learning

Students will investigate what viruses are and find out more about the Ebola virus outbreak.

The Australian Curriculum

Science / Science as a Human Endeavour / Use and influence of science

Science and technology contribute to finding solutions to a range of contemporary issues; these solutions may impact on other areas of society and involve ethical considerations ([ACSHE120](#))
Year 7



Science / Science as a Human Endeavour / Use and influence of science

Scientific understandings, discoveries and inventions are used to solve problems that directly affect peoples' lives.
Year 5 ([ACSHE083](#)) Year 6 ([ACSHE100](#))



Discussion Questions

1. Discuss the BtN *Ebola* story with another student and record the main points of your discussion.
2. What are scientists from the CSIRO studying?
3. Ebola is a highly contagious _____.
4. In which decade was Ebola first discovered?
5. How can the Ebola virus be caught?
6. What does the virus attack once it's in the human body?
7. What are the symptoms of Ebola?
8. There is no cure for Ebola. True or false?
9. In which countries is there an Ebola outbreak now?
10. What is being done to stop the spread of the virus?

Activities

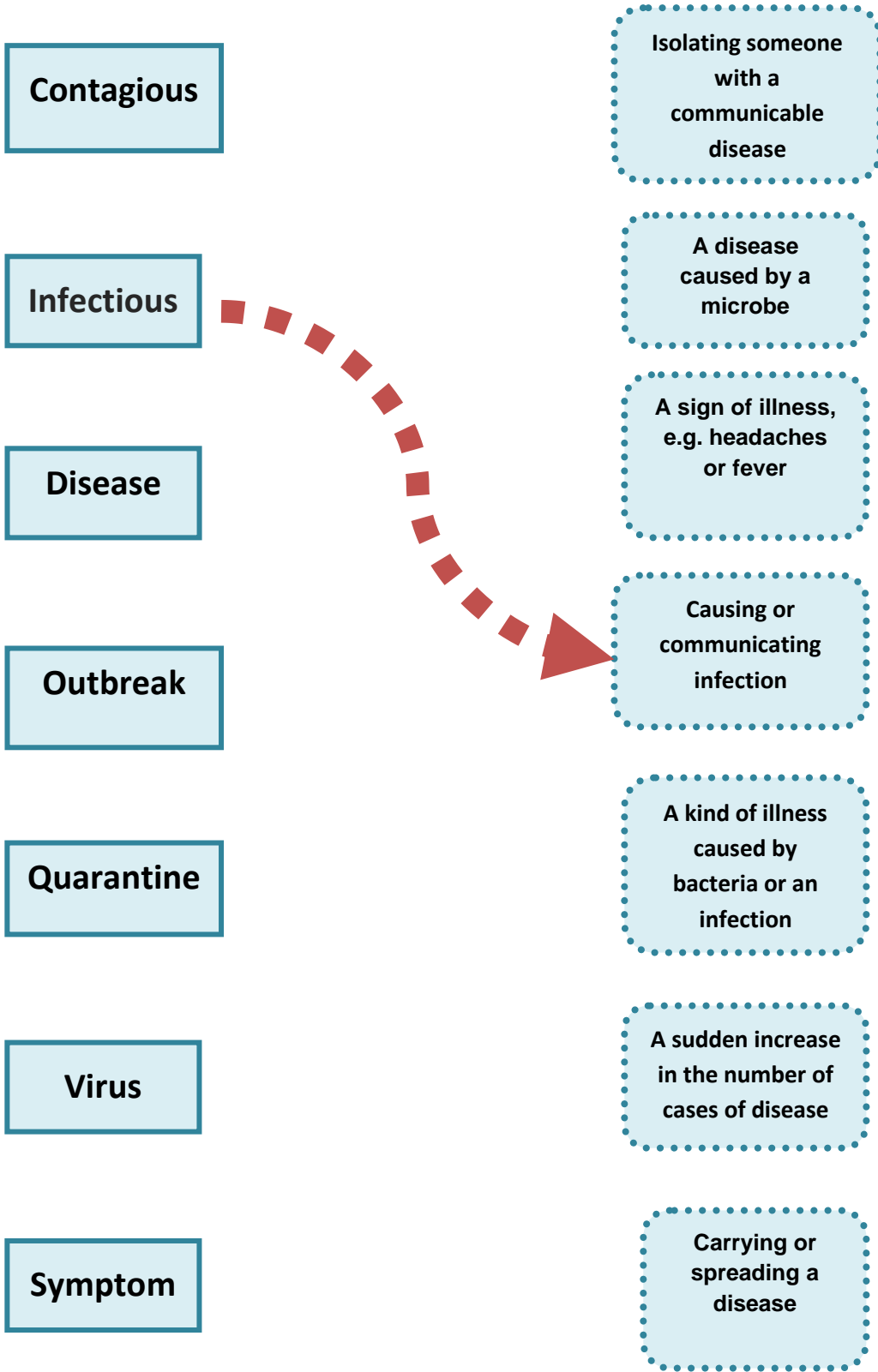
Class Discussion

After watching the BtN *Ebola* story, hold a class discussion about the information and issues raised in the story. Clarify students' understanding of:

- Where has there been an Ebola outbreak
- How many people have been affected?
- How does it spread?
- What are the symptoms?

Word match

Can you match the following words to their correct meanings?



Dictogloss

Students will work in pairs to recreate part of the BtN *Ebola* story that has been read aloud to the class. Print a copy of the transcript from the *Teachers section* on the BtN website

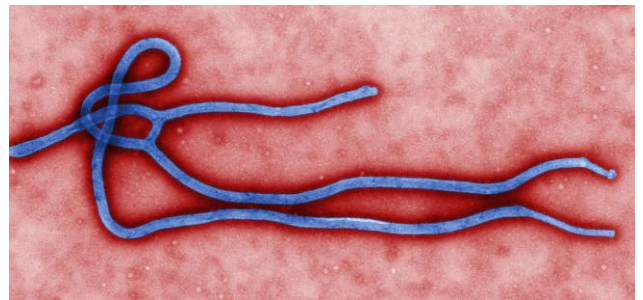
<http://www.abc.net.au/btn/teachers.html#teachertools> Ask students to write down the key words as the text is read (the text may need to be read more than once). Each pair rewrites the text then proof reads and edits their text. Students then present their texts to the class and compare them to the original.

Research Task

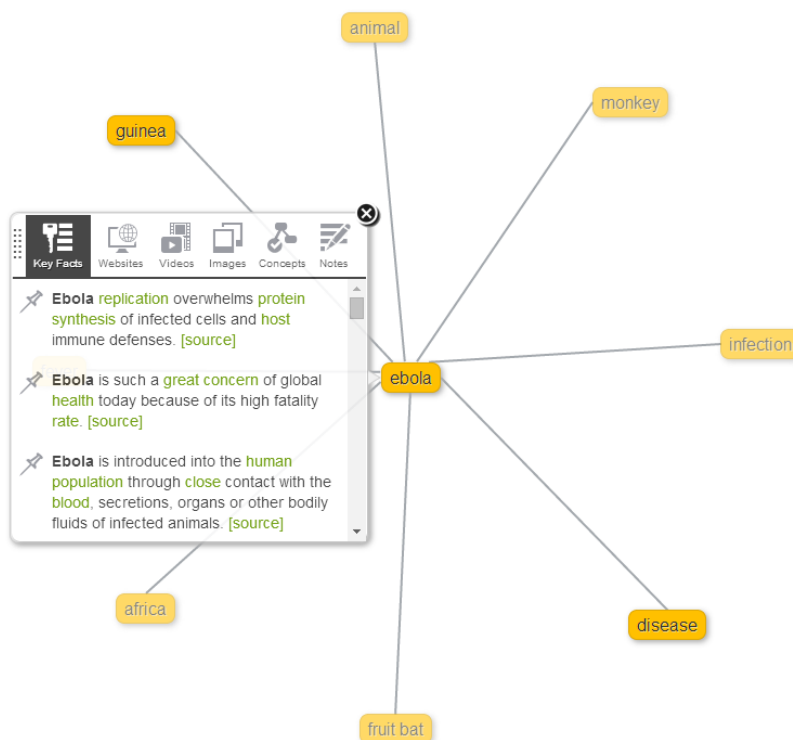
Students will find out more about viruses and in particular, the Ebola virus. To help with their research, students can use an interactive mindmap at the InstaGrok website <http://www.instagrok.com/> Students can find out more about viruses and Ebola using the different functions of the mindmap; *key facts*, *websites*, *videos*, *images*, *concepts* or *adding notes*.

Research questions

- What is a virus?
- How do viruses spread?
- Why do they make us sick?
- What can be done to prevent spreading illnesses?
- What are some illnesses caused by viruses?
- What do you know about Ebola?
- What impact has Ebola had on parts of Africa?
- What is the World Health Organisation? What is their role when there is an outbreak like Ebola?



Ebola virus



Related Research Links

ABC News – Ebola: what is it and how does it spread?

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2014-07-30/ebola-virus-explainer/5635028>

World Health Organisation – Ebola Virus Disease

<http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs103/en/>

CBBC Newsround – Q&A: Ebola virus

http://news.bbc.co.uk/cbbcnews/hi/sci_tech/newsid_2925000/2925691.stm