

4

Science Standard
4.3.d.



Dictionary

California Education and the Environment Initiative



Microorganisms and the Human World

Dictionary

A

antibiotic

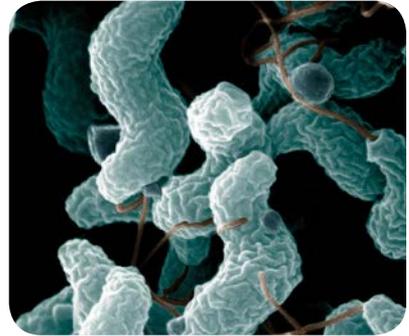
A drug that stops bacteria from growing and reproducing, often that is used to treat infections.



B

bacteria

Microscopic, one-celled organisms.



C

contaminate

To add something that does not belong with something else, such as dirt in food.





crude oil

The oil before it has been refined and made into gasoline and other products.



decomposition

The breaking down of dead organisms into their chemical and mineral parts.



ecosystem services

Processes that take place in nature, such as pollination, that support or produce things that help sustain human life, economies, and cultures.

D

E

F

fermentation

A process in which sugar is broken down and used by microorganisms.



fungus

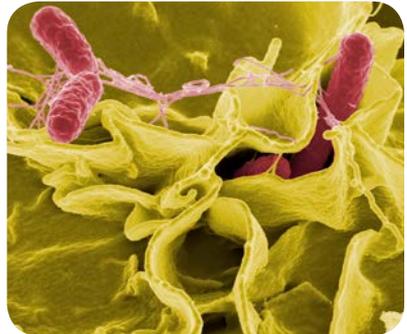
An organism, such as a mushroom, that gets energy and matter primarily from other dead organisms.



M

microorganism

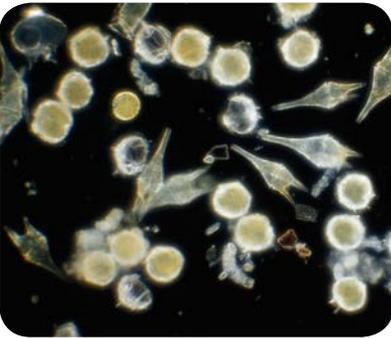
A very small organism that can be seen only with the aid of a microscope.





oil spill

Oil that accidentally gets into the environment.



organism

A living thing, such as a plant, animal, or other life form, that can grow and reproduce.



penicillin

An antibiotic, produced by a certain mold, that is used against bacterial infections.

V

vegetable oil

Oil made from plants.



Y

yeast

A single-celled microorganism that breaks down sugar in a process called fermentation.



Unit Title: **Microorganisms and the Human World**

Grade: **4**

Science Standard Number 4.3.d.

© Copyright 2011 by the California Environmental Protection Agency

© 2013 Second Edition

All rights reserved.

This publication, or parts thereof, may not be used or reproduced without permission from the Office of Education and the Environment.

These materials may be reproduced by teachers for educational purposes.



California STATE BOARD OF
EDUCATION

California Education and the Environment Initiative

