

Lesson 1

What's the Buzz?

Age/Grade Level: 1st-3rd

Lesson Objective:

Participants will learn about malaria and its causes and the locations around the world where it is present.

Materials Needed

Wall World Map or overhead transparency
World Map coloring page
Crayons - Blue, Green, Red and Black for each child

As the children arrive

Pass out a copy of the world map coloring page to each child. Tell them to look at the world map on the wall and begin coloring the land forms green and the water blue using the wall map as a guide.

Introduction

Tell the students to bring their maps to the large group. Give the students a red crayon and a black crayon. With the red crayon have them put a dot on the map where they live and have them trace the line on the equator with the black crayon. Tell them that we are going to be learning about a problem that occurs in countries below that line. Tell them you are going to read a story about an insect that lives in some of those countries.

Read the picture story, "*Buzz*"

Vocabulary Words – for younger students go over the vocabulary words prior to reading the story or read the story, then go over the vocabulary words and read it again.

parasite	infect	recover	regrets
spread	dread	Malaria	mosquito

Discussion Questions

What is Buzz? *A mosquito*

Where is he going? *To visit a sick friend*

What made his friend sick? *A parasite*

What is Buzz afraid of? *Getting sick (or infected)*

What are Buzz and his friends trying to stop? *Malaria*

What do they think will stop it? *Nets*

Tell the students that we will learn more about the nets in the next few lessons but that they should be thinking about how a net might help stop malaria.

Using the supplemental information on malaria discuss with the students the disease and how it is spread. Ask them if they have ever known anyone who has had malaria. Make the point that malaria is only found in certain areas where the conditions are right. Show them the picture of the map that has the areas where malaria is predominant. Point out those countries relative to where they live.

For the activity, they will make a model of a mosquito. In the next few lessons the mosquitoes will be used in a display. Make additional ones for students who are not in attendance. This may be done by students who finish quickly. You may create your own design or use the ideas below for this activity.

Activities

- Mosquito Craft - (*see attached*)

Additional Activities

- For further information, the Internet site www.enchantedlearning.com/crafts/insects has coloring pages of the mosquito life cycle, sequencing cards and a diagram of an anopheles mosquito.
- Glue Earth Window Cling (*see attached*)

Application / Closure

Have students find the African country of Ghana. Tell them that next week they will hear a story about a boy who lived in that country whose family received a wonderful gift and how malaria affected his family. Tell the students to think about the story of “Buzz” and see if they can figure out why Buzz thought nets could stop the malaria.