

## Lesson 1

### What's the Buzz?

Age/Grade Level: 7<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>

#### Lesson Objective:

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

#### Supplemental Materials Needed

Make copies for each student of the following:

*Distribution of Malaria Worldwide Map*

*Countries with Endemic Malaria*

*Malaria and Mosquito Facts (number of copies depends on how you will share this information\*)*

#### As the students arrive

Pass out the maps & list of countries. Have them look at the locations of the countries reporting malaria cases and the list of countries. Ask them to be formulating statements about this to share when you start the large group discussion.

#### Lesson Content

##### Large Group Discussion

Ask the students to share their observations about the locations of countries reporting malaria cases. They may say that there are no cases reported in the US or that most of the countries are located in the eastern hemisphere, etc. Accept all reasonable statements. Then point out the fact that most of the countries are south of the equator where the conditions are more favorable for the spread of the parasite which causes malaria.

\*Summarize or read the information on the *Malaria and Mosquito Facts* sheet. You may read this aloud, make copies for each student to read silently or summarize the information and present it to the students. One possible way to do this is to “jigsaw. Divide students in to small groups. Divide the article into the same number of sections as there are students in the small groups. Each student is assigned a particular section of the article to read, then summarize and share this information with their small group. All students get the benefit of learning the information without having to read the whole article.

As they read, ask them to be thinking about the following questions.

Have you ever known anyone who had malaria? Why or Why not?

How is malaria spread? What makes it difficult to stop the spread of malaria?

How do you think you could have an impact on decreasing the spread of malaria?

#### Discuss

Review the facts you read. Ask student what new information they learned or something that they found surprising. Discuss the questions listed above. Let students share ideas about what

they might do to get involved. Discuss the problem relating to the distance between where they live (in the US) and where the malaria is most prevalent (in countries south of the equator). Tell them that in this unit of study you will be sharing with them a way to get involved but you will need their input on how to do the fundraising for this project.

### **Optional Craft/ Activities**

Craft:

*Glue Earth Window Cling* (copy the template for each student)

While they are working on the activity direct them to continue to discuss possible ways they can get involved. This window cling will serve as a reminder of the problem with malaria worldwide.

### **Application / Closure**

Tell the students that during the next three sessions they will be learning more about malaria, its victims and how one organization has found a way to help. Tell them that they will also be thinking of ways to spread the message to a larger audience with a possible infomercial.