

## Catch The Reading Bug 2007 –Week Two

**Sub-theme:** Germs

**Title:** Grossology Fun

**Age:** 6 – 9 years

**Duration:** 1 hour

**Submitted by:** Susan Andrews, Surrey Public Library

### Materials/Supplies:

- paper plates
- plastic forks and spoons
- Jug of water
- napkins
- paper & markers to keep track of points

### Procedure:

Choose a variety of the following activities that suit your location and resources.

1. Give a brief introduction to grossology and its definitions: burping, sneezing, farting, bugs, etc.  
<http://www.sciencemuseum.org.uk/exhibitions/grossology/facts.asp>

2. **Grossology Trivia Quiz:**  
<http://www.grossology.org/exam/>

3. **Read one of these books:**

- *What Did You Put in Your Pocket?* by Beatrice Schenk De Regniers, while another person (either volunteer or staff member) "demonstrates" the book. Use an old apron with a big pocket in the front. Then place a gallon size Ziplock bag inside of the pocket so it won't ooze through the apron. Add various items into the pocket as you read the story.
- *Sam's Sandwich* by Beetle McGrady
- *Chicken-fried Rat: Tales Too Gross to be True* by Cylin Busby
- *Southern Fried Rat & Other Gruesome Tales* by Daniel Cohen

3. **Grossology Sounds Guessing Contest:** cd player or computer – burping, sneezing, farting  
<http://www.whitakercenter.org/science/GMO/Grossology/GMOGrossDownloads.asp>

4. **Demonstrate Gross Activities:**

**A. FAKE SNOT**

### To make borax solution:

- Place 1/8 cup of borax laundry booster into a ½ litre of warm water.
- Shake until most of the borax dissolves & let cool

### To make fake snot:

- Place 2 tsp of runny glue into a cup
- Add 3 tsp of water & stir
- Add 2 drops of green food coloring & stir
- Pour into a sandwich bag
- Then add 1 tsp of borax solution
- Dump into sandwich bag
- Squish the sandwich bag to mix



## **B. FAKE SCARS:**

### Ingredients:

- Small bowl
- Toothpick
- Petroleum jelly – Just a dab
- Tissue or toilet paper squares
- Cocoa powder
- Two to four drops of red food coloring



**‘Real-like’ Scar**

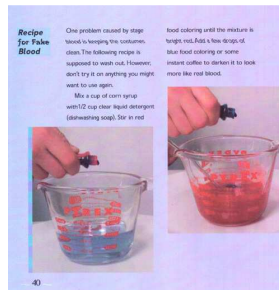
### Directions:

Place a dab of petroleum jelly in the small bowl. Add in a few drops of food coloring. Stir with the toothpick. Add a small amount of the powdered cocoa to darken the blood to your chosen shade. Separate the tissue so you have only one layer. Tear the sheet of tissue to about two by three inches and place where your fake wound will be. Smear the petroleum jelly mix onto the tissue and mold your gory wound. Don't place it flat, make it appear realistic and jagged by raising the outer edges. Beginning with the outer edges, pat in the cocoa to darken the edges. If preferred, place a little in the center of the wound.

## **C. FAKE BLOOD**

### Ingredients:

- 1 pint of clear corn syrup
- 100 drops red food coloring
- 1/4 cup of water
- 1/4 cup sifted flour or corn starch
- 8 drops blue food coloring



### Directions:

First remove about a 1/4 cup of the corn syrup, and replace it with an equal amount of water. Add the food coloring and mix the blood by gently shaking. Now add the sifted flour (or corn starch) to your mixture, and gently mix it all again. If you use flour, you may get small lumps forming at the top of the mixture, if you do, then wait about a minute and they will float to the top where you can

remove them. You now have a bottle of realistic fake blood! You can experiment with the amounts of ingredients for the right consistency.

## 5. Play some Grossology Games:

- **WHAT'S THAT SMELL GAME?**

Place bananas, licorice, onions, garlic, lemons in paperbags or little cups. Using blindfolds, have the children smell the onions, garlic and lemons. Then have them taste the smashed bananas / licorice, and guess what they are.



- **WHAT'S IN THE BAG GAME?**

Touch Game – (Place rubber eyeballs, fake poop, rubber tongue, rubber eyeballs, fake vomit, 'smushed' banana into paper lunch bags and have the kids try to guess what's inside, without looking in the bags.)

- **TEAM BURPING CONTEST:**

Three team members drink warm Coke / Sprite. The winner is the one who burps the loudest & longest (plastic cups needed).

- **WHOOPEE CUSHION RACE:**

Group team race – 3 team members pounce downwards on each of their chairs with whoopee cushions – the one that makes the loudest fake fart sound wins.



- **POOP RACE.**

Team Race: Have children run while carry fake doggy poop on big spoons around pylons, then tag off to their team members.

- **UNDERWEAR CHANGEUP RACE:**

Team Race: Group team members run around pylons/chairs wearing oversized underwear over their clothing. When they get back to the group, they remove the underwear and tag off.

## 7. Craft Activity:

### A) YUCKY PAPER PIZZA

How do you like your pizza? Smothered in flies or spiders? Garnished with eyeballs? Topped with a toads? This is the yuckiest paper pizza you'll ever make.

#### You need:

- Color Pizza Project Sheet: [http://www.makingfriends.com/y\\_pizza.htm](http://www.makingfriends.com/y_pizza.htm)
- Scissors
- Glue Sticks
- Markers, Crayons, or Colored Pencils
- Fake bugs / eyeballs (if you wish – found at dollar stores)



#### Instructions:

Simply print a project sheet, cut out the pieces and glue them on.

### B) MAKE YOUR OWN FART GIZMO

<http://sciencenorth.on.ca/science-attractions/grossology/grossology-fun-farts.html>

## 8. Edible Gross Treats:

### A) EDIBLE DOOKIE COOKIES:

#### Ingredients:

- ½ cup margarine
- 1 teaspoon cocoa
- 1/2 cup brown sugar
- ½ cup white sugar
- 1 egg
- ½ tsp vanilla
- 1 cup flour
- 1 cup rolled oats
- shredded wheat or wheat flake cereal
- green food coloring



#### Instructions:

- Warm the oven to 375 degrees.
- Into the sauce pan place margarine, sugar, cocoa. Melt mixture and set aside.
- Into the mixing bowl add brown sugar, egg, brown sugar, egg, vanilla, flour, oats. Stir well. Add a squirt of green food coloring and mix. Add the cereal and mix. (If you use shredded wheat, crumble the cereal first.) Shape the dough into turds. You can make flattened cow pies or little kitty turds. The cookie dough will flatten a bit during cooking, so keep that in mind.
- Place the cookies into the oven for 9 to 11 minutes.

### B) BOOGERS ON A STICK:

Kids make their own boogers on a stick (pretzel sticks + green velveeta)

### C) CORPSE FINGERS:

String cheese with almond slice fingernails and a dab of ketchup.

**Resources:**

**Books:**

Branzei, Sylvia. Grossology.

Branzei, Sylvia. Grossology Begins at Home.

Branzei, Sylvia. Hands-On Grossology : The Science of Really Gross Experiments.

Branzei, Sylvia. Virtual Grossology.

Busyby, Cylin. "One Large Rat Juice" from The Chicken Fried Rat.

Cobb, Vicki. Follow Your Nose .

Dahl, Roald. Revolting Recipes.

Goode, Diane. "My Big Toe" from Book of Scary Stories and Songs.

Hauser, Jill Frankel. Super Science Concoctions.

Masoff, Joy. Oh, Yuck! : The Encyclopedia of Everything Nasty.

Porter, Cheryl. Gross Grub.

Scieszka, Jon. Stinky Cheese Man and Other Fairly Stupid Tales.

Solheim, James. It's Disgusting and We Ate It!

Szpirglas, Jeff. Gross Universe : Your Guide to all Disgusting Things Under the Sun.

**Websites:**

<http://www.grossology.org>

<http://www.flint.lib.mi.us/fpl/grossology/index.shtml>

[http://www.grossologylive.com/Grossology\\_LIVE\\_955c815ad028b130.html](http://www.grossologylive.com/Grossology_LIVE_955c815ad028b130.html)

<http://www.discoverykids.ca/gross/creepycrafts/crafts.asp>