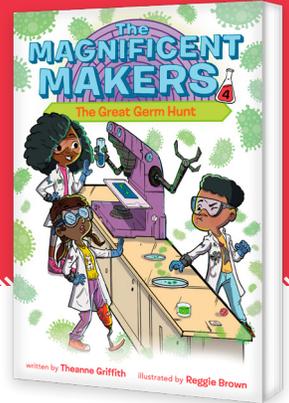




Discussion points, activities, and writing prompts for

# The Magnificent Makers: The Great Germ Hunt



1. Get to know the characters in *Magnificent Makers #4: The Great Germ Hunt*.

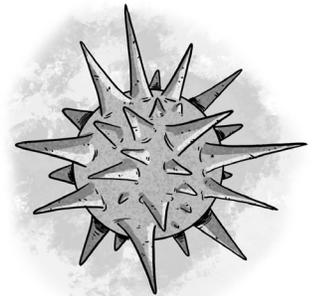
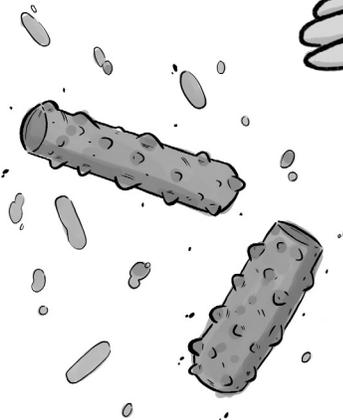
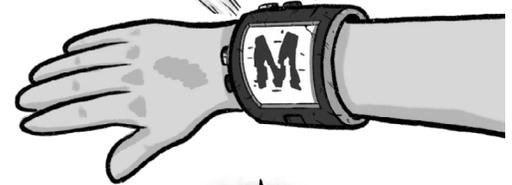


a. Who is Pablo? Draw an outline of a human figure, which will represent Pablo, on a large piece of paper. Write any known details about Pablo inside the outline. Outside the outline, write any questions about Pablo that you might have. Repeat these steps for Violet and Aria.

2. Mr. Eng teaches the class about the different kinds of germs, bacteria, viruses, and fungi. Create a poster to illustrate their differences.



3. Aria keeps asking Violet whether she still has the flu. But Violet insists that she has allergies. What are Violet's symptoms? Do online research to determine some common allergies. What is causing Violet's allergic reaction? Are allergies contagious? Why or why not?



4. Why does Aria have to be extra careful not to get sick?

a. What are some precautions Violet can take to make sure she doesn't pass her illness to someone else, like Aria?



5. The second challenge in the Maker Maze requires Pablo, Violet, and Aria to learn about what three types of viruses?

a. How does each type of virus affect humans?  
b. Why does hologram Pablo not get sick from the influenza virus?



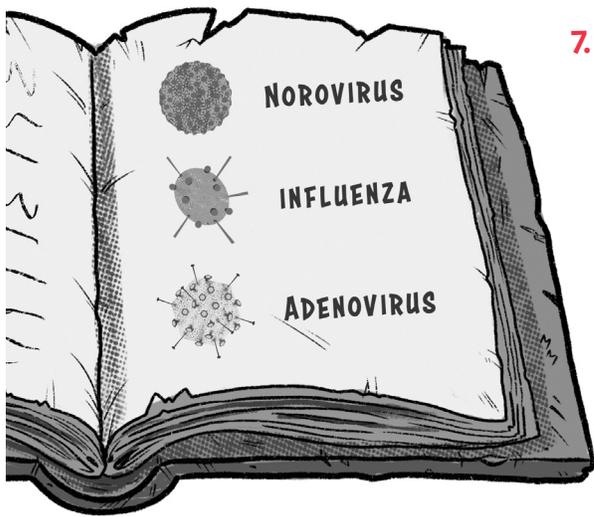
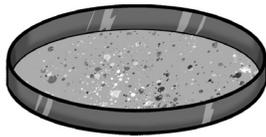


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# The Magnificent Makers: The Great Germ Hunt



## AGAR



6. *The Magnificent Makers: The Great Germ Hunt* is filled with lots of germ-related vocabulary. Make a list of all the new words you do not know. Create a flash card for each of the vocabulary words. Include a drawing to help you remember the word and its definition.

7. The third challenge in the Maker Maze asks Pablo, Violet, and Aria to cough into a petri dish without getting germs on it. What are the first, second and third strategies they try? What are the results of each strategy?

- What strategy yields no germs on the petri dish? What does this tell you about how to prevent spreading illness when you are sick?
- Create an illustrated pamphlet to teach others best practices to stop the spread of germs, based on the Maker Maze petri dish experiment. Hand out the pamphlet to people in your family, neighborhood, and school community.

8. Mr. Eng says, "Some germs are icky and can make us sick. But did you know there are a lot of good germs, too?" Use the internet to research good germs and their benefits.

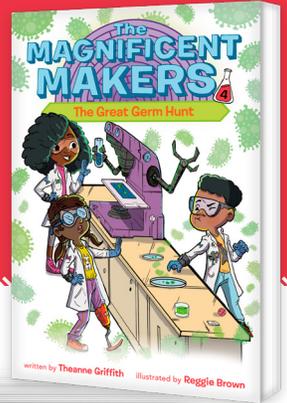
- At the end of the book, Mr. Eng tells the class they are going to be looking at bacteria from different kinds of yogurt. If yogurt contains bacteria, why do we eat it?





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9. “Of course, real germs are so small that they can be seen only with a microscope. However, germs are like glitter—there are a lot of them, they spread easily, and it takes proper hand washing to get rid of them,” says the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Demonstrate how germs spread with this glitter experiment.

- \* Place a drop of unscented lotion into your hand and rub your hands together to spread the lotion evenly.
- \* With hands held over the trash can, place a pinch of glitter in the palm of one hand.
- \* Make a fist and then spread your fingers out. What do you notice about the glitter?
- \* Rub your hands together and then touch a nearby surface or another person’s hand. What do you notice?
- \* Wipe your hands clean with a paper towel. Did it get all the glitter? Or does some remain?
- \* Lastly, wash your hands with soap and water. Did all the glitter come off?

How easy was it to pass the glitter from your hand to someone else’s hand or to a surface?

10. If one person spreads their germs to two people who each spread their germs to two people and so forth, how quickly would the germs spread to 10 people? 100 people? 1000 people?

- a. Create a diagram that shows the spread starting with one person and ending with 100 people.

11. Create your own board game version of the Germs Maker Maze in which players help Pablo, Violet, and Aria complete each germ challenge. You can use anything you’d like, including cards, pathways, challenges, dice, or a timer!

Guide prepared by Marcie Colleen.



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