

Too Small to See

Health and Nutrition



CONNECT to a time when you learned a surprising fact about something you could not see—like atoms, UV rays, sound waves, or germs. How can microscopic images and artists' renderings help you visualize things that are too small to see?



RESPOND to the idea that tiny organisms like viruses and bacteria can live on surfaces, float in the air, and travel from person to person without being seen. Why is understanding about microscopic germs important for protecting our health? How does knowing about viruses and bacteria influence the ways we wash our hands, clean spaces where we live, work and play, and inform school policies about staying home when sick?



CREATE an illustration that shows how you'd imagine an illness-causing virus or bacterium would look. Draw an unwashed hand that shows visible spots on the fingertips (such as mud, pizza sauce, chocolate, paint, or anything you could see before you wash it off). Show the palm area of the hand being examined by a powerful magnifying glass. Within the glass lens draw the magnified bacterium or virus.



Clara C.



PRESENT your sketch to classmates and discuss how you used research and your imagination to design the germs. Share why knowing how these microorganisms impact our health informs the way we care for ourselves and others.