

March 14, 2020

Why Bat Viruses Are So Dangerous

Student Comprehension Worksheet

Directions: After reading "[Why bat viruses are so dangerous](#)," answer the following questions.

1. The article mentions three well-known human viruses that bats also carry. What are they?
2. How do the viruses affect bats and humans differently?
3. Why do bats and humans respond differently, according to recent evidence?
4. How did ecologist Cara Brook test for viruses' effects on bats and monkeys in the lab? What was the result of her experiment?
5. How did monkey and bat cells fare in a mathematical simulation of the experiment? How did the mathematical simulation complement the lab work?
6. Why does the author refer to the relationship between immune systems and viruses as "a sort of arms race"? What type of literary device is this, and why do you think the author uses it?
7. How many bat species are there in the world, according to disease ecologist Kevin Olival? How does this figure relate to Brook's study?
8. According to Olival, or based on your own thoughts, what are some areas for further research?