

April 25, 2020

Where Bacteria Live on Our Tongues

Student Comprehension Worksheet

Directions: After reading the online *Science News* article "[Here's where bacteria live on your tongue cells](#)," answer the following questions.

1. What does the image at the top of the article show? What do the different colors represent?
2. The author says that bacteria on tongue cells build "neighborhoods." What are bacterial neighborhoods? What literary device is the term an example of?
3. How did scientists map bacterial neighborhoods on human tongue cells?
4. Paraphrase (restate in your own words) the article's second paragraph, which describes the main research finding.
5. How was the distribution of bacteria on different tongue cells similar? Be as specific as possible in terms of bacteria type and location on tongue cell.
6. How was the distribution of bacteria on different tongue cells different?
7. Why are scientists interested in understanding bacterial neighborhoods?