

## Grade 4

### Health Objective 2.01

Identify problems associated with and measures to control common childhood diseases or conditions such as asthma, allergies, diabetes, and epilepsy.

### Language Arts 3.06

Conduct research for assigned projects or self-selected projects from a variety of sources through the use of technological and informal tools (e.g., print and non-print texts, artifacts, people, libraries, databases, computer networks).

### Materials Needed:

Disease Cards – Equally divided among allergies, asthma, diabetes and epilepsy  
Appendix 1 – Resource Handout

### Focus:

Give each student a comic book, picture to color, or some type of game to play. Also give each student a school handout (e.g., math problems, spelling words to define, or sentences to write). Tell students they may color or play for as long as they would like but they must also complete the handout in a given amount of time (15 minutes). When the time is almost up tell students that they now have five minutes left to complete their worksheets. Once the time has expired, tell students they must stop wherever they are at the time. Ask which students did not finish their handouts and why. Explain that often we put off things and get behind. It is often difficult to catch up once we are behind. Explain that the same thing is true with the symptoms of certain illnesses. If we do not attend to them early, they become bigger problems later.

### Teacher Input:

Ask students if they or anyone they know has asthma, allergies, diabetes or epilepsy. Allow students to share what they know about these illnesses. Briefly explain each of the illnesses

- Allergies: Being sensitive to certain things, such as pollen or different foods
- Asthma: An illness that causes difficulty breathing, often triggered by allergies
- Diabetes: A disease that does not allow the body to produce and store sugar properly
- Epilepsy: A condition that makes people likely to have seizures. A seizure is a behavior caused by a change in the brain.

### Practice & Assessment:

Give each student a card with one of the four illnesses. Place students into groups according to the card that they drew. Each group must identify sources that discuss the illness, symptoms and methods to control the problem. Depending on the size of the group, each group should have two sources from the library, two sources from the internet, and two interviews with individuals with the particular illness if available. (This assignment may take several days) Once students have completed their resource search place students back in their groups and ask them to create a poster which focuses on ways to control their particular illness. Discuss the general themes of the posters that should focus on recognizing signs and symptoms and early management.



# Finding Resources

Directions: Find the assigned resource and answer the following questions for your assigned illness using the given source.

Source#1 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Symptoms \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Methods to control

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Source#2 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Symptoms \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Methods to control

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_