

Non-Fiction Article

{Are Public Pools Safe?}

PDF & Digital Editions



2 Peas and a Dog

Middle School Teaching Resources



RESOURCE INCLUDES

- Lesson Plan
- Teacher Instructions
- Individual PDFs for Google Drive
- Google Slides for 1:1 Schools
- Audio file of the article
- Pre-reading K-W-L chart
- Non-fiction article (modified and regular levels)
- 3 Post reading activities
 - ✓ Comprehension questions
 - ✓ Grammar questions
 - ✓ Long response writing

EXAMPLE PAGES

PUBLIC SWIMMING POOL SAFETY

It's a hot day, the water is cool and you're ready to jump in and go for a swim. Wait! Just how clean is that public swimming pool?

Germ Pool

Public swimming pools are full of germs and other bacteria. People are coming and going all day long, introducing new germs into the water.

That's why water is chemically treated to make sure that it is safe for swimmers. Otherwise, all of those germs and bacteria would make the water unsafe for people to use.

There are two specific things that are key to making sure the pool is safe: chemicals such as chlorine and the pH of the water (which measures how acidic the water is).

Chlorine is used to kill the bacteria and pH levels tell the pool staff when the chlorine isn't working. The higher the pH, the less the chlorine is working. In order to make sure the water is always okay to swim in, both things need to be monitored consistently. It can take anywhere from a couple of hours to two weeks for chlorine to kill germs.



Swimming Pool

New germs are always coming into the pool with new people.

What's In The Water?

When someone gets into the water, everything that's on their body comes into the pool. Shampoo from people's hair, body lotion, perfumes, sweat and dirt all find their way into the pool.

There are also less pleasant things coming into the water, such as fecal matter and urine. If they are on any person or baby entering the pool they make their way into the water. People and babies also pee in the pool.

One child can bring 10 grams of poop into the pool (that's the weight of four pennies) carrying 10 trillion microbes.*

* <http://www.2peasandadog.com>

K-W-L CHART

Topic: _____

K	W	L
What do I already know about this topic?	What do I want to know about this topic?	What new things did I learn from the article?

ANSWERS

Name: _____

Instructions: Answer the following questions on this paper.

- What is a contaminant?
 - A container.
 - Something that pollutes or poisons.
 - A place where currency is made.
 - Something that purifies.
- Where does the bacteria *Cryptosporidium* come from?
 - Chlorine.
 - Human urine.
 - Human skin cells.
 - Human fecal matter.
- What do the asterisks at the end of certain paragraphs indicate?
 - They mean that paragraph was particularly important.
 - They are meaningless symbols and were likely placed there by accident.
 - They tell the reader to refer to the bottom of the page for proof or evidence of the point made.
 - They add some interesting visuals to the text.
- Which sentence has the correct spelling and punctuation?
 - There are too specific things that are kee to making sure the pool is safe: chemicals such as chlorine and the pH of the water
 - There are too specific things that are key to making sure the pool is safe: kemicals such as klorine and the pH of the water.
 - There are two specific things that are key to making sure the pool is safe: chemicals such as chlorine and the pH of the water.
 - There are two specific things that are key to making sure the pool is safe chemicals such as chlorine and the pH of the water

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K-W-L CHART

Topic:

K

W

L

What do I already know about this topic?

What do I want to know about this topic?

What new things did I learn about this topic from the article?

PREVIEW

PUBLIC SWIMMING POOL SAFETY

It's a hot day, the water is cool and you're ready to jump in and go for a swim. Wait! Just how clean is that public swimming pool?

Germ Pool

Public swimming pools are full of germs and other bacteria. People are coming and going all day long, introducing new germs into the water.

That's why water is chemically treated to make sure that it is safe for swimmers. Otherwise, all those germs and bacteria would make the water unsafe for people to use.

There are two specific things that they monitor to see the pool is safe: chemical chlorine (which is used to keep the water clean) and the pH of the water (which means how acidic the water is).

Chlorine is used to kill the bacteria and pH levels tell the pool staff when the chlorine isn't working. The higher the pH, the less the chlorine is working. In order to make sure the water is always okay to swim in, both things need to be monitored consistently. It can take anywhere from a couple of hours to two weeks for chlorine to kill germs.



New germs are always coming into the pool with new people. What's In the Water? When someone gets into the water, everything that's on their body goes into the pool. Shampoo from someone's hair, body lotion, perfumes, sunscreen and dirt all find their way into the pool.

There are also less pleasant things coming into the water, such as fecal matter and urine. If they are on any person or baby entering the pool they make their way into the water. People and babies also pee in the pool.

One child can bring 10 grams of poop into the pool (that's the weight of four pennies) carrying 10 trillion microbes.*

* <https://www.cdc.gov/healthywater/swimming/materials/infographic-clean-it-up-swimmers.html>

ANSWERS

Name: _____

Instructions: Answer the following questions on this paper.

1. What is a contaminant?
 - A. A container.
 - B. Something that pollutes or poisons.
 - C. A place where currency is made.
 - D. Something that purifies.
2. Where does the bacteria *Cryptosporidium* come from?
 - A. Chlorine.
 - B. Human urine.
 - C. Human skin cells.
 - D. Human fecal matter.
3. What do the asterisks at the end of certain paragraphs indicate?
 - A. They mean that paragraph was particularly important.
 - B. They are stray symbols that were like placed there by accident.
 - C. They tell the reader to refer to the bottom of the page for proof or evidence of the point made.
 - D. They indicate essential views to the text.
4. Which sentence has the correct spelling and punctuation?
 - A. There are too specific things that are key to making sure the pool is safe: chemicals such as chlorine and the pH of the water
 - B. There are too specific things that are key to making sure the pool is safe: kemicals such as klorine and the pH of the water.
 - C. There are two specific things that are key to making sure the pool is safe: chemicals such as chlorine and the pH of the water.
 - D. There are two specific things that are key to making sure the pool is safe chemicals such as chlorine and the pH of the water