

Scholastic ScienceWorld

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**Before Reading Vocabulary**

**Microbes:** tiny living things that you can’t see without a microscope, including bacteria, and single celled fungi

**Human microbiome:** the collection of microbes that lives on or in the human body.

**During Reading:** As you read “What’s living on You?” answer the questions below.

1. How does it make you feel to think about microorganisms living on your body?

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2. Which microbes from the “mapping microbes” section on p. 16 are beneficial to humans?

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3. What are some of the things that beneficial bacteria do for humans?

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4. How do scientists sample bacteria without having to count 100 trillion microbes?

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5. Why might it be helpful for doctors to know what microbes exist on a typical person?

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7. What can you do to keep your own microbiome healthy? Is this surprising to you? Why or why not?

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**After Reading:** Summary and response

**1. What were the 1-2 main ideas of this article?** (hint: focus on the headers- “the Zoo on you” and “Microbe Medicine.” What is the focus of each of these sections?)

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**2. Response:** Write 3-4 sentences about your response to the article. You can choose to write about what surprised you, any questions you thought of, anything that was confusing, or your opinion of the article.

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