

Post-Lab Questions

When the drawing, coloring, and labeling of each member's section of the Petri dish is complete, compare the information that was written and drawn with the information from the Petri dish of one other group in the class. Answer the questions below in the spaces provided.

1. Was the source of the microbes found on each dish identical? If not, how did the locations differ?

2. Were there any similarities in colonies or in the descriptions of the colonies? Explain your answer using the information written on the page with your drawings.

3. Were there any differences in colonies or in the descriptions of the colonies? Explain your answer using the information written on the page with your drawings.

4. Were there more similarities or differences between the two dishes? Based on your comparison, do some microbes seem to prefer one habitat (surface) over another? Explain your answer.

Before answering Questions #5 and #6, observe the plates of *all* other class members and note the sources of the microorganisms growing on their plates.

5. Which site or surface, was the most surprising in terms of the number of microbial colonies that grew from that source? Why was this site or surface so surprising?

6. Briefly explain how this lab has helped you understand the ubiquity and diversity of microorganisms?