WARNING: What you are about to read needs to remain confidential!

We are getting reports of Polusville residents experiencing strange symptoms. One of the identified patients has grown a large, sparkly unicorn horn on his head. You will find his image inside. I need you to cut out the patient and dotted line circle on his head. Then, insert your finger through the hole to replicate one of his symptoms. If you want to learn more about this patient keep your eyes peeled for the next envelope!

We are monitoring the patient to identify other stages of this disease. Our scientists believe this patient has inhaled sparkles from an unknown specimen. For now, we are calling the disease Severe Unicorn Syndrome or SUS for short. Before SUS spreads further, we need all hands-on deck to find a vaccine quick! I’m putting you in charge of vaccine development at the PCDC. You have all of the scientists’ notes at your disposal, along with the necessary materials that I’ll be sending you every month.

First things first, let’s give you a refresher course on vaccines. From there, you will need to work on picking the best SUS vaccine. We are counting on you to save Polusville from this unicorn invasion.

Don’t let us down!

Dr. Skeld
Polusville Center for Disease Control
INSTRUCTIONS: Connect the dots in numerical order to help us identify the virus that causes SARS.
Thank you for agreeing to help us with the vaccine for SUS! First, you need to remember which diseases usually affect unvaccinated kids. However, right before we sent you this letter, our computer crashed and it rearranged all the diseases in the word grid below. Can you find the names of the nine diseases?

Find the following words in the puzzle.
Words are hidden →, ↓ and ←.
Now that you know which diseases are dangerous to children, let’s figure out how scientists found a way to defeat them. Unfortunately, all we could find were some old newspaper clips that might help you solve this puzzle. Maybe you could help us match the vaccines with the diseases?

1. ____MMR 

2. ____DTaP 

3. ____IIV 

4. ____IPV 

5. ____Varicella vaccine 

   a. Influenza (flu) 
   b. Measles, Mumps, Rubella 
   c. Chicken pox 
   d. Diphtheria, Whooping cough, Tetanus 
   e. Polio
NEW VACCINE SHOWS PROMISE

The new MMR vaccine, developed last year, has saved countless lives
The vaccine contains weakened measles, mumps, and rubella viruses. Doctors are recommending that the vaccine should be given to children in two doses: the first dose at 12 to 15 months of age and the second dose is given at 4 through 6 months of age.

All three diseases are caused by viruses and are spread through direct contact or through the air. The symptoms include fever, headaches, and runny noses. Additionally, mumps causes swollen salivary glands and affects most children. Measles, characterized by a rash, affects three to four million people each year in the Republic of Champaign Urbana (ROCU). There are no treatments available for any of the diseases. The last major rubella epidemic occurred in 1964, where 12.5 million people were affected in the ROCU.

“The vaccine offers lifelong protection! What more could you want?” said Dr. Pepper. “If that’s not enough, it has eliminated 99% of the cases.”
10,000 RECEIVE POLIO SHOTS

Mass inoculation in county makes medical history

Yesterday became a date in medical history. The world’s first countrywide inoculation was carried out in Poll County. More than 10,000 children received their first inoculation of the Inactivated Polio Virus vaccine.

For all the people who took part yesterday—the doctors, the nurses, the volunteers, and most of all, the first-grade and second-grade children who were inoculated—it was a day of excitement. For some, who were apprehensive, it was a great relief. Most of the children wore grins when they left the big rooms where medical teams were doing the inoculating.

The disease is caused by a virus and is spread from person to person. In extreme cases, the disease causes paralysis. Over 35,000 patients are affected in the ROCU every year and there are no treatments available. The vaccine is believed to be 99-100% effective, with immunity lasting for at least 18 years (continued on page 4).
MIRACLE CURE?

The Dtap vaccine reduces 98% of cases

The vaccine combines the diphtheria toxoid, the tetanus toxoid, and part of the whooping cough bacteria, providing protection against all three bacterial diseases. The vaccine shots are given at 2 months, 4 months, 6 months, 15 through 18 months, and 4 through 6 years.

“We are certain that the immunity will last for at least 10 years,” said Dr. Atchoo.

Gone are the days of respiratory illness from the diphtheria toxin, the jaw cramps from tetanus, or the terrible “whoop” sounds from children affected by whooping cough. Although there are drugs and antibiotics that can treat these diseases, the vaccine will help reduce the 100,000 cases of these diseases that are reported each year.

Mysterious death confuses Scotland Yard

The Scotland Yard police commissioner William Horwood was mysteriously poisoned when he ate a box of Walnut Whip cookies, believing that they were a birthday gift from his daughter. The police are currently pursuing all leads (continued on page 7).

Disney’s latest movie continues to draw crowds

Disney’s latest animated short film, Puss in Boots, which was released on November 3rd, continues to be successful, prompting additional screenings. The current show times can be found on page 10.
VARICELLA VACCINE TO BE ADMINISTERED IN THE ROCU

The childhood disease chickenpox may soon be eliminated

Chickenpox, characterized by a blister-like rash, itching, fever, and tiredness, may no longer be a common childhood infection. The varicella vaccine, which was developed in the 1970s, will be administered in the ROCU starting next year.

The disease is caused by the varicella-zoster virus and is spread through close contact with a chickenpox patient. Approximately 4 million cases occur each year in the ROCU. Currently, there are no cures for the disease. Patients are told to use calamine lotion or oatmeal baths to soothe the itching.

“The vaccine has been released in Japan and Korea and we now know that it is 82% effective. The immunity lasts for 10-20 years,” said Dr. Doom.

First download-only song released

The band Aerosmith has made an online-only release of Get A Grip outtake “Head First”. CompuServe subscribers can download the free track within the first eight days of availability.

The song, which is 3 minutes and 14 seconds, should take approximately 90 minutes to download, making it unlikely that such “online-only” songs will be a long-lasting trend.
Influenza (Flu) Vaccine: What you need to know

Why get vaccinated?

Flu is a contagious disease that spreads around the United States every year, usually between October and May.

Flu can cause fever and chills, sore throat, muscle aches, fatigue, cough, headache, and runny or stuffy nose.

Each year thousands of people in the United States die from flu, and many more are hospitalized. Flu vaccine prevents millions of illnesses and flu-related visits to the doctor each year.

Types of vaccines

There are different types of flu vaccines that are available including inactivated influenza vaccine (IIV), recombinant influenza vaccine (RIV), or live attenuated influenza vaccine (LAI).

The vaccines contain the flu virus that has been weakened in different ways.

The PCDC recommends everyone 6 months of age and older get vaccinated every flu season. Children 6 months through 8 years of age may need 2 doses during a single flu season. Everyone else needs only 1 dose each flu season.

It takes about 2 weeks for protection to develop after vaccination.

There are many flu viruses, and they are always changing. Each year a new flu vaccine is made to protect against three or four viruses that are likely to cause disease in the upcoming flu season.

Influenza vaccine does not cause flu.

Polusville Center for Disease Control
ANSWER KEY

Word search for disease names:

Created using Word Search Generator on Super Teacher Worksheets
(www.superteacherworksheets.com)

Matching the disease with the vaccine:

1) MMR: Measles, Mumps, Rubella
2) DTaP: Diphtheria, Whooping cough, Tetanus
3) IIV: Influenza (flu)
4) IPV: Polio
5) Varicella vaccine: Chicken pox