# Lesson 6

**Lesson Title:** Investigation of Moulds

**Subject:** Science  
**Year:** 6

**Lesson Date:** Week 3 Term 4

**Lesson Aim:** Learn that micro-organisms cause food to decay which can cause food poisoning

## Learning Outcomes

Intended learning outcomes; what do they need to learn, understand and be able to do. How best to motivate and explain the importance of the lesson.

- Learn that micro-organisms cause food to decay.
- Describe the conditions that encourage the growth of food mould.
- Explain that microorganisms grow and reproduce on food and that this can cause food poisoning.
- Understand that micro-organisms bring about decay which is beneficial.
- Learn that micro-organisms break down materials to release nutrients back into soil and water and in this way they are recycled.

## Introduction

How best to motivate and explain the importance of the lesson?

Tell students that you have grown some mould for them to observe. Students use their sense of sight and smell to observe various foods with mould (prepared prior to lesson) such as bread, cheese, fruit, yoghurt etc. Students use magnifying glasses and microscopes to view moulds and make drawing and observations in science journal.

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tr>
<td>10 min</td>
<td>Intended learning outcomes; what do they need to learn, understand and be able to do. How best to motivate and explain the importance of the lesson.</td>
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<tr>
<td>35 min</td>
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**Body**

What will support the students to learn the concepts I am trying to teach and to reach the outcomes I am aiming for? What will the students be doing? What will I as teacher be doing?

- Read and discuss an information report about mould. ‘Moulds’ (Resource sheet 5)
- Work in teams to plan and set up an investigation to determine factors that affect mould growth on food
- Observe and record the results of their investigations with “Mouldy matters resource sheet 9.
- Teach students that micro-organisms bring about decay which is beneficial.
- Investigate the compost bin and view matter that has decayed under a microscope and magnifying glass.
- Students learn that decomposing micro-organisms break down natural materials to release nutrients back into soil and water which feed plants.
- Students do experiment of ‘A lot of Rot’
- In science journals students write benefits of decomposing micro-organisms consequences if materials did not decay eg if things didn’t rot, rubbish would pile up forever

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| CONCLUSION | - Observe, record and interpret the results of their observation  
- Present a brief explanation or summary to peers  
- Compare explanations and engage in argument | 10 min |
| ASSESSMENT | How will you assess if the learning outcomes have been achieved.  
- Science journal entries of written observations  
- Explanations and discussions  
- Completion of ‘A lot of Rot” & Mouldy Matters resource sheet. | 5 min |
| EVALUATION | How did the lesson go? What would you change next time? What aspects were important in the planning and teaching of the lesson? | |
| ADDITIONAL INFORMATION | | |