

PROJECT: Interview an Expert

Due Date: _____

Materials:

- copy of page 2
- reference materials on your selected autoimmune disease
- sheet of poster board
- crayons, markers, or colored pencils
- optional: file folder for storing copies of this page and page 2

Steps:

1. Write the name of the autoimmune disease you will research in the box. Also write the due date above.
2. Complete page 2 as directed.
3. On poster board, create a poster that gives information about your autoimmune disease.
4. Use your research notes to write an interview between an expert on your autoimmune disease and the host of the *Linking With the Experts* television show. Include the information you noted on page 2 in the interview. Also include a part during which you display your poster and explain it to the show's viewers.
5. Ask your teacher to make a copy of your interview. Give this copy to your partner.
6. Practice performing your interview with you playing the role of the expert and your partner playing the role of the show's host. Try to be so familiar with your speaking part that you won't need to read from the written interview during the performance.



Autoimmune Disease to Research:

I Think I'm Finished!

To make sure, answer these questions:

- ___ Did you research your autoimmune disease and complete a copy of page 2?
- ___ Did you draw, color, and label your poster?
- ___ Did you write your interview and give a copy to your partner?
- ___ Did you and your partner practice your interview several times?



Autoimmune Expert

Write the name of the autoimmune disease you selected below, making sure it isn't the same one your partner chose. Then research the disease and answer the following questions. Use the back of this page or additional paper if you need more space.

Autoimmune disease: _____

1. What part of the body is affected by this disease? How does the disease affect this body part?

2. What causes this disease? Is a certain part of the population more likely to have this disease?

3. How might someone know that he or she has this disease? What are its signs and symptoms?

4. How does a doctor diagnose this disease? _____

5. What methods do doctors use to treat this disease? _____

Interview an Expert

Grades 5–6

Teacher Page

Project: writing and performing a live interview of an expert on an autoimmune disease

Goals:

- to learn about a specific autoimmune disease
- to research an autoimmune disease to find specific information (W.5.7; W.5.8; W.6.7; W.6.8)
- to plan, write, and give an oral presentation (W.5.2; W.6.2; SL.5.4-6; SL.6.4-6)

Materials for each student: See the list on page 1.

Introducing the project:

1. Cut apart the strips on page 4 and place them in a paper bag.
2. Announce to students that a new television show called *Linking With the Experts* is looking for guests to interview. Explain that each student will research an autoimmune disease and then team up with a partner to present a live interview that gives information about that disease.
3. Divide the class into pairs. (If you have an odd number of students, allow one group to include three students.)
4. Distribute copies of pages 1 and 2. Go over these pages with students. Assign a due date for each student to write in the blank on page 1.
5. Have each student draw a slip from the bag and write the name of the selected disease on his copies of pages 1 and 2. Be sure each student selects a disease that differs from his partner's.
6. Several days before students present their interviews, go over the pointers in the box.

Did you know that the American Autoimmune Related Disease Association hosts an annual fundraiser called "Linking Together for a Cure"? Learn more at www.autoimmunewalk.org.



Presentation Pointers

- Critique your performance after each practice. Work on the things you think you need to improve on.
- Visualize yourself being successful before, during, and after your interview.
- If you get nervous, take a few deep breaths to help you relax.
- Smile at your audience—you'll be sure to get some smiles back, which will help you relax.
- Make eye contact with the interviewer. Also try to look at classmates in the audience periodically.
- Use expression. Talk with enthusiasm about your topic.
- Use hand motions to emphasize points as you talk.

Preparing for Student Presentations

Schedule each student's interview on a different day than his partner's (so that no child must perform twice in one day). Have a group of students decorate an area in your room as the set of *Linking With the Experts*, including signs decorated with the strips from additional copies of page 4. Include a desk, a toy microphone, a potted plant, and two coffee cups on the set.

Autoimmune Disease Strips

Addison's disease	Myasthenia gravis
Alopecia areata	Myocarditis
Autoimmune hepatitis	Pernicious anemia
Behcet's disease	Psoriasis
Celiac disease	Rheumatic fever
Crohn's disease	Rheumatoid arthritis (RA)
Graves' disease	Sarcoidosis
Guillain-Barré syndrome	Scleroderma
Hashimoto's thyroiditis	Sjögren's syndrome
Juvenile arthritis	Type 1 diabetes
Lupus	Vasculitis
Meniere's disease	Vitiligo
Multiple sclerosis	Wegener's granulomatosis