

Science Detective's Notebook

Imagine that you are a detective-in-training, learning from the expert Team Diarrhea scientists. One thing you'll find out from reading the article "Deadly Bites" is that they are masters of observation. They keep their eyes and ears open because anything could be a clue that might crack their next food-poisoning case. Like most detectives, they probably record their observations in a notebook. This helps get them in the habit of paying attention to detail. It also helps them keep track of little things that might turn out to be important later. To help you see how they solved the mystery of the 2008 salmonella outbreak, the Team D scientists have provided the prompts below for your own "detective's notebook." *Try this with a partner!*

Directions: As you and your partner read the article "Deadly Bites," fill in as much information as you can. Incomplete sentences are fine! Then, review your notes. Can you work together to crack the case of the 2008 salmonella outbreak?

1. THE PROBLEM

What happened to Christopher Meunier just before Thanksgiving in 2008? What were his symptoms?

2. THE DIAGNOSIS

What did doctors say was wrong with Christopher?

3. THE QUESTION

What main question did this bring up? (Hint: What are the Team D scientists trying to figure out?)

4. THE FACTS

What is salmonella? How can it be spread? What are some other facts about it? (Remember to use information found in the article.)

Continued ►►

Science Detective's Notebook page 2

5. HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

What happened in 1993 that could be compared to the case Team D is working on?

What are some of the facts of the 1993 case?

What are some similarities between the 1993 case and the Team D case?

6. IMPORTANT CLUES

In the case of the 2008 salmonella outbreak, where did many of the victims spend their time?

What object was found at one of the nursing homes? Why is this detail important?

What are some questions scientists had regarding this find?

7. YOUR THOUGHTS & CONCLUSIONS

Before you and your partner read the section "Thousands of Foods" on page 11, write down any suspicions or deductions you have. Then, draw your best conclusion about what happened in the case.

DETECTIVE'S GLOSSARY

- deduction [di-DUHK-shuhn]:** something that is figured out from clues
- suspicions [suh-SPISH-uhns]:** thoughts that something is wrong or bad