

[Narrator] In this 35-minute activity and 10-minute class discussion, students will apply a case definition to determine confirmed cases in an outbreak.

Then, following the steps of an outbreak investigation, they will work together as a class to investigate a NERD outbreak at a local summer camp. Finally, students will develop tailored communication materials to specific audiences to help prevent future, similar outbreaks.

This activity uses data and concepts based on a novel emerging respiratory disease, or NERD. NERD is a fictional disease used for teaching purposes.

Start this collaborative, whole class activity by handing out a Summer Camp Outbreak Case Study Investigation Overview to each student.

Pass out the Case Study one section at a time as prompted by the instructions. As the activity progresses, students will discover new information through each section– the overview and individual parts 1 through 3. Walk through the case study as a class and answer the questions together.

In the second part of the activity, break students into 8 groups.

Hand each group a Communicating Findings Worksheet and have them choose an Audience Card. Give groups time to develop an appropriate communication strategy and materials for their specific audience.

After completion, have groups share what channel they chose to communicate through and what key details they felt were important to share with their audience.

Finally, ask students to think about why it is important to communicate the findings of an outbreak investigation and why it is important to consider your audience. Encourage them to share their thoughts with the class.

Spend the last 10 minutes wrapping up and reviewing “How is an outbreak investigated?” Suggested discussion prompts are provided in the lesson plan.