



Name:

Date:

Epidemiology: Independent Learning Guide

The role models in the video “Epidemiology” discuss the exciting possibilities and rewarding experiences that can be found with a career in epidemiology. From tracking down the cause of a disease outbreak to finetuning vaccines, epidemiologists help protect people and allow them to live safe lives.

Watch the video “[Epidemiology](#)” at least once. Then read each statement below. Think carefully about each question before you answer it.

1. One role model told us that epidemiologists are "disease detectives."

What does this mean? Describe the types of job tasks that epidemiologists have. How are these tasks similar to the tasks a detective has?

2. Epidemiologists must work well with others. They often partner with state and federal government workers, international agencies, and other scientists.

What kinds of skills do you need to work effectively with others? What are some other careers where you need these skills? List some ways that you could begin practicing your teamwork skills now to prepare for the future.



- 3. Listeners learned that epidemiology is a very rewarding career field. Epidemiologists get to see the results of their work and how their duties are impacting people directly.**

Do you think it is important to pick a rewarding career field? Why or why not? What types of careers do you believe would be rewarding for you?

- 4. A role model said, "Science gives us the blueprint for understanding what is happening around us."**

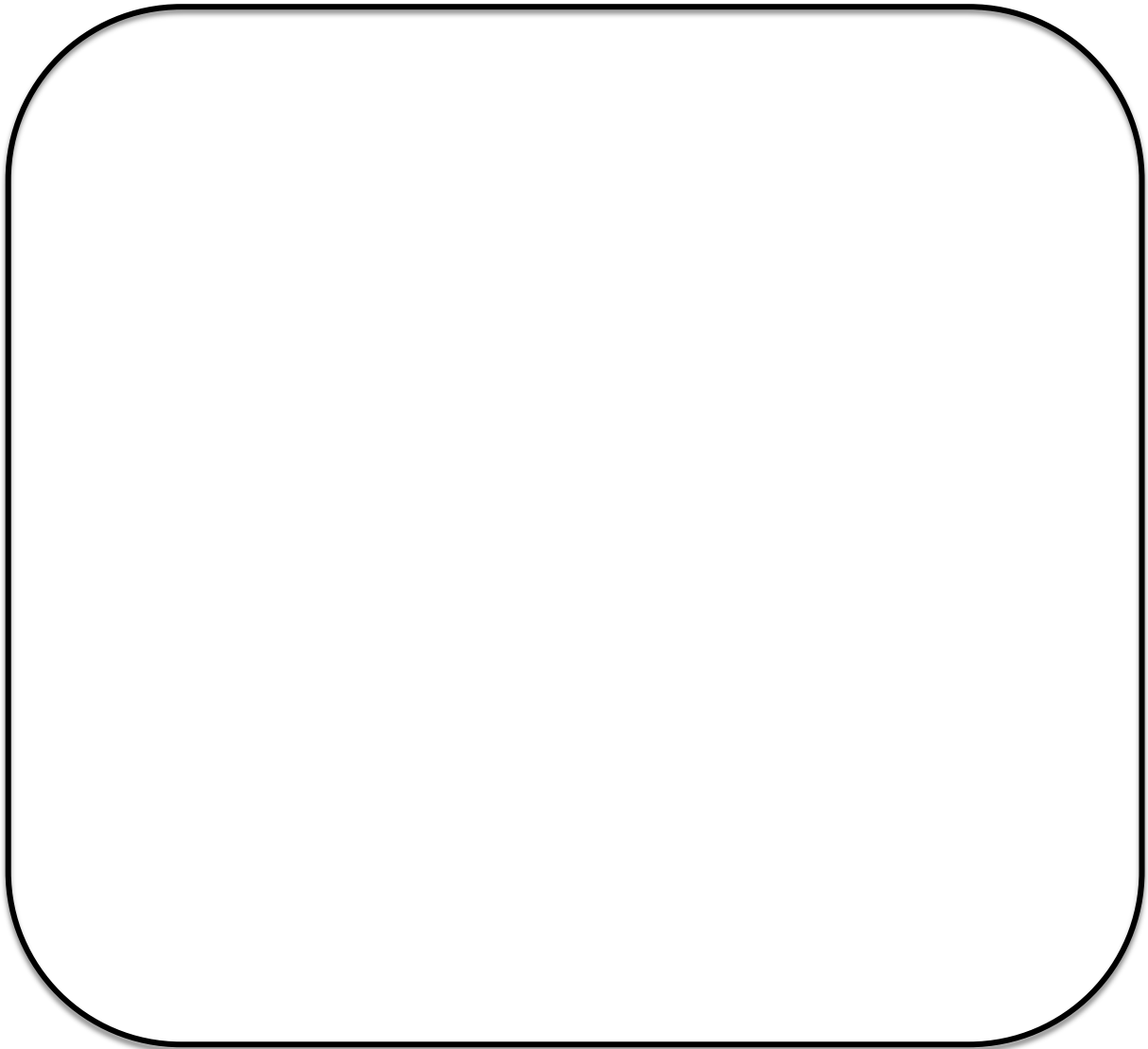
Do you believe this is true? What experiences have you had with science where you understood something or viewed it differently than you did before? How could the "blueprint" of science help during a disease outbreak?

- 5. Diseases and bacteria are around us all the time, and they aren't going anywhere. This makes epidemiology an in-demand career. That means that there are plenty of jobs for people who want to become epidemiologists. But not all careers are in demand.**

What are some careers that you think are not in demand? Why? Can you think of any careers that no longer exist?

6. **Anyone can become an epidemiologist! Studying bacteria, diseases, and disease outbreaks can be a fascinating career.**

Use the space below to draw a picture of yourself as a disease detective. Think about the types of equipment epidemiologists use and the things they study.



Describe your picture.
