

# Germ Relay Race

## Grade 8

### Eastern North Carolina Digital Library

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*Grade Level:* 8

*Main Content Area:* Science

*Type of Activity:* Research and Critical Thinking Skills

*Instructional Goals:*

Students will examine changes in medical technology, medicine, and health that took place in North Carolina between 1870 and 1930 and construct products and ideas which demonstrate understanding of how these changes impacted people living in North Carolina at that time.

Research and compare the “Humeral Theory” of disease with the “Germ Theory” of disease and how it affected the way doctors practiced medicine.

Use this activity after exploring the digitized artifacts from the Country Doctor Museum found in the [Eastern North Carolina Digital Library](#) and using the search function of the website to research the life of a country doctor.

*Note: This lesson activity was completed before the development of standardized criteria for the Eastern North Carolina Digital Library classroom portal. It has been modified to align with the lesson template.*

#### **Alignment to the North Carolina Standard Course of Study**

*8<sup>th</sup> Grade Science*

Competency Goal 6: The learner will conduct investigations, use models, simulations, and appropriate technologies and information systems to build an understanding of microbiology.

7.02 Describe diseases caused by microscopic biological hazards including: Viruses, bacteria, parasites, contagions, mutagens.

7.03 Analyze data to determine trends or patterns to determine how an infectious disease may spread including: Carriers, vectors, conditions conducive to disease, calculate reproductive potential of bacteria.

7.04 Evaluate the human attempt to reduce the risk of and treatments for microbial infections including: Solutions with anti-microbial properties, antibiotic treatment, and research.

### *8th Grade Social Studies*

Goal 5 – The learner will evaluate the impact of political, economic, social, and technological changes on life in North Carolina from 1870 to 1930

#### **Materials/Resources Needed**

- The Eastern North Carolina Digital Library website:  
<http://digital.lib.ecu.edu/historyfiction>
- Computers with Internet access
- Computers with PowerPoint or Hyper Studio software
- Computer with Quick Time audio player
- Earphones for above
- Paper/Pencils

#### **Activity Sequence**

Make up and play a “Germ Relay Race” to help explain how certain diseases can be transmitted from person to person through physical contact. Write down the activity’s Objectives, Rules, Number of Players, Props or Game Pieces, etc. on a piece of paper and put this into your portfolio.