Swimming Pool Germs Busted by Chlorine!

A Healthy Pool Coloring Book A New Adventure of...



The Chlorin8tor & Little Hector, The Disinfector

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When the weather turns hot and school lets out

for summer, it's POOL TIME!



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But, while many of us are chillin' at the pool, there are two superheroes who work harder in summer than at any other time of the year. These guys **bust the germs** that can live in pool water and make us sick. Who do you think they are?

Yes—The Chlorin8tor and Little Hector, The Disinfector. These superheroes destroy germs in drinking water, swimming pools and MANY other places.



Pool germs can make swimmers sick—YUK! The Chlorin8tor uses his mighty Electron Grabber tool to destroy germs by ripping electrons out of them. Hector is holding a big magnifying lens to show us how this works.



Destroying germs by electron grabbing is a simple and fun way to think about the job chlorine does when pool managers add it to pool water. Do you know that many germs enter pools on the bodies of swimmers? These critters are too tiny to see without the help of a microscope, so have a seat in the Microbiology Laboratory and let's look on with Little Hector as he examines a few pool germs. [By the way, Microbiology is the study of VERY SMALL life forms.]



Scientists use dyes to see little critters better through their microscopes. Color the germ pictures on the next pages. You can use the colors in the photo at the bottom of each page, or choose your own "dyes"!

Pseudomonas aeruginosa [sudo-MOAN-as air-roog-in-OH-sa]



Pseudomonas aeruginosa is a fast-moving germ that may enter



Pseudomonas aeruginosa ©Dr. Linda Stannard, Photo Researchers, Inc.

pools on swimmers' bodies or in dirt tracked into the pool area. (The long whip-like tail helps this critter get around.) This germ causes a bumpy, itchy skin rash and an earache known as "swimmer's ear."

Shigella sonnei

[shi-GELL-a SONE-eye]



Shigella sonnei is a rod-shaped critter that may cause a bad



Shigella sonnei ©SciMAT / Photo Researchers, I nc.

case of diarrhea if it is swallowed with pool water. Swimmers who use the bathroom and enter the pool without washing their hands may bring this germ into the pool.

Cryptosporidium parvum

[crip-toe-spore-ID-iom PAR vum]



Cryptosporidium parvum is a germ that may enter pools in the



Cryptosporidium protozoa ©Michael Abbey / Photo Researchers, Inc.

droppings of birds or other animals. It may cause a very bad case of diarrhea in swimmers if it is swallowed with a gulp of water. Busting this germ is a challenge even for the Chlorin8tor. Swimmers can help keep germs out of pool water by following the NO-FOOL POOL RULES that start on page 13. Sometimes, very simple plants called **algae** (say it like this: AL-gee) grow in swimming pools. You can SEE this kind of germ in a pool—algae turn water greenish or yellow-brown.



How can you tell a pool is safe for swimming? The Chlorin8tor has some tips to help you decide. These tips will help keep you healthy AND help make you a good scientist—because scientists USE THEIR FIVE SENSES.

THE "SENSE-ABLE" SWIMMING CHECK LIST

 \checkmark USE YOUR SENSE OF SIGHT.



Does the pool water look clear and blue? You should be able to see through the water down to the drain or stripes painted on the floor of the pool. If the water is cloudy and colored, there may be algae in it. DON'T GO I N!

 \checkmark USE YOUR SENSE OF TOUCH.



Does the pool wall around the water line feel slimy? If it does, there are probably germs living on the wall. DON'T GO I N!

√ USE YOUR SENSE OF SMELL.



Is there a strong chemical odor around the pool? If there is, the pool manager may have to treat the water. DON'T GO I N!

✓ USE YOUR SENSE OF HEARING.
The sound of pool-cleaning equipment
is a good sign!



Just don't taste the water! If you do get

some water in your mouth, don't swallow it. By now, you know why!





The Chlorin8tor and Hector also want you to know that you can help

keep pools healthy for everyone, by following the

NO-FOOL POOL RULES:

NO-FOOL POOL RULE #1: SHOWER BEFORE SWIMMING.



NO-FOOL POOL RULE #2: DON'T SWIM WHEN YOU HAVE

DI ARRHEA.



NO-FOOL POOL RULE #3: TRY NOT TO GET POOL WATER IN YOUR MOUTH, BUT IF YOU DO, DON'T SWALLOW THE POOL WATER.



NO-FOOL POOL RULE #4: NEVER USE THE POOL AS A BATHROOM—IF YOU HAVE TO GO, LEAVE THE POOL AND USE THE **REAL** BATHROOM. WASH YOUR HANDS AFTERWARDS.



The Chlorin8tor and Little Hector keep the fun in swimming by keeping pool water germ-free, or DI SI NFECTED. Please do your part to keep pools healthy:



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