

ENGAGING PARASITE ECOLOGY TRIVIA QUIZ: TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE!

- Dikshita Goswami and Shatakshi Dubey
Department of Zoology
Ramjas College, University of Delhi,

INTRODUCTION

ARE YOU READY TO EXPLORE THE HIDDEN WORLD OF PARASITIC LIFE AND THEIR HOST? THE HOST AND PARASITE ARE IN A DYNAMIC, COMPLEX INTERRELATIONSHIP, THE OUTCOME OF WHICH CAN BE MAINLY PARASITIC, SYMBIOTIC, OR COMMENSAL. THIS TRIVIA QUIZ IS SHAPED TO TEST YOUR MASTERY OF PARASITE BIOLOGY AND ITS ENVIRONMENT. THESE SITUATION-BASED QUESTIONS WILL BE PRIMARILY FROM THE STUDY OF PARASITES, BASICS OF HOST-PARASITE INTERACTIONS AND PARASITIC DISEASES, INCLUDING DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT OF COMMON PARASITIC INFECTIONS. ALONG THE WAY, THIS FREE CONTEST WILL SHARPEN YOUR CURIOUS MIND, EXPERTISE AND EXPAND YOUR KNOWLEDGE TO UNDERSTAND THE DIVERSITIES OF PARASITES IN THE LIGHT OF CO-EVOLUTIONARY DYNAMICS AND ECOLOGICAL IMPACTS. DON'T WAIT - START NOW AND PROVE YOU HAVE GOT WHAT IT TAKES!

QUESTION 1:

I'M A GIANT, BUT NOT A BEAST,
I LIVE INSIDE, WHERE MEALS ARE FEAST.
IN PIGS AND HUMANS, I RESIDE,
IN ASIA'S LANDS, I LIKE TO HIDE.
RAW PLANTS ARE HOW I MAKE MY WAY, GUESS MY NAME
WITHOUT DELAY.
I AM ALSO KNOWN AS GIANT INTESTINAL FLUKES. WHO
AM I?

QUESTION 2:

I HIDE IN THE WATER, TOO SMALL TO BE SEEN,
THROUGH A SNAIL, I GROW AND TURN INTO SOMETHING
MEAN.
I SNEAK THROUGH THE SKIN OF THOSE WHO SWIM,
CAUSING DISEASE THAT MAKES HEALTH DIM.
I TRAVEL IN BLOOD, IN VEINS I ROAM, IN BLADDER OR
GUT, I MAKE MY HOME.
I AM ALSO KNOWN AS URINARY BLOOD FLUKES. WHAT
AM I?

QUESTION 3:

I START AS AN EGG, TOO SMALL FOR THE EYE
IF YOU SWALLOW ME, I MAKE YOU CRY.
TO YOUR BRAIN I MAKE MY COURSE, CAUSING SEIZURES
WITH MIGHTY FORCE.
I AM THE LARVAE OF THE TAPEWORM TAENIA SOLIUM,
ALSO KNOWN AS THE 'PORK TAPEWORM'.
WHICH PARASITIC INFECTION OF THE NERVOUS SYSTEM
IS CAUSED BY US?

QUESTION 4:

I START IN THE LIVER, THEN INVADE THE BLOOD CELLS
CAUSING FEVER AND CHILLS TO THE HUMAN HOST.
I AM SINGLE-CELLED PARASITES BELONGING TO THE
PLASMODIUM GENUS.
I AM THE MOST WIDESPREAD OF ALL OF THE MALARIA
SPECIES. WHO I AM?

QUESTION 5:

IN THE TSETSE FLY,
I TRANSFORM SEVERAL TIMES BEFORE BECOMING
INFECTIOUS AGAIN.
WHERE DO I MULTIPLY BEFORE REACHING THE SALIVARY
GLAND?

QUESTION 6:

I'M THE FORM OF THE MALARIA PARASITE THAT THE
MOSQUITO INJECTS INTO HUMANS.
WITHOUT ME THE CYCLE CANNOT START.
WHAT AM I?

QUESTION 7:

A MOSQUITO AND A TSETSE FLY ARE ARGUING.
THE MOSQUITO BRAGS, "I'M THE DEADLIEST INSECT IN
THE WORLD! I SPREAD MALARIA!"
THE TSETSE FLY SMIRKS AND SAYS "WELL I DON'T JUST
MAKE PEOPLE SICK BUT I MAKE THEM SLEEP!" WHAT
DISEASE IS THE TSETSE FLY TALKING ABOUT?

QUESTION 8:

A PATIENT TRAVELS TO A TROPICAL COUNTRY AND
STARTS EXPERIENCING BLOODY DIARRHEA AND
STOMACH PAIN.
A STOOL SAMPLE REVEALS MOTILE FORM OF A
PARASITE.
WHICH STAGE OF E. HISTOLYTICA WAS FOUND IN THE
STOOL?

QUESTION 9:

THE DORMANT STAGE OF PLASMODIUM VIVAX IN THE
LIVER IS KNOWN AS?

QUESTION 10:

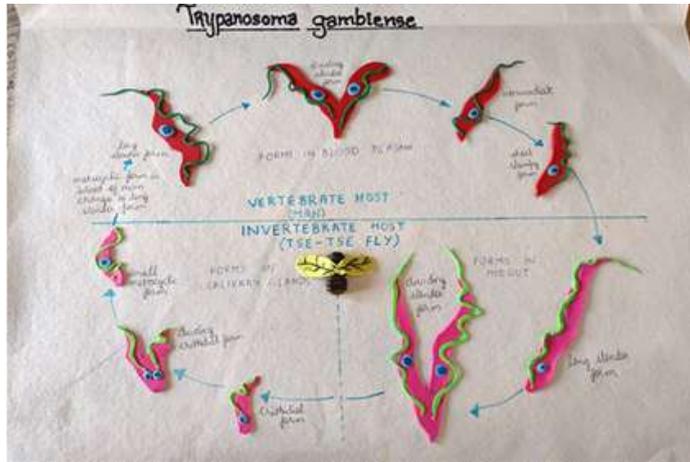
WHICH PART OF THE PIG DOES TAENIA SOLIUM
CYSTICERCI (OR LARVAL CYSTS) DEVELOP IN?

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING EXERCISE FOR YOUNG READERS

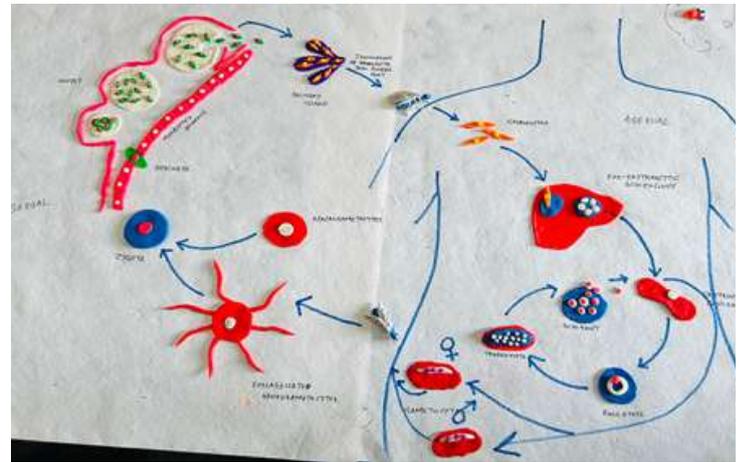
TASK: CREATE A PARASITE LIFE CYCLE USING CLAY MODELING TO VISUALIZE AND UNDERSTAND THE MULTI-STAGE LIFE CYCLE OF A PARASITE.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES: UNDERSTAND HOW PARASITES MOVE AMONG ENVIRONMENTS AND HOSTS, AND THE MORPHOLOGICAL CHANGES THEY UNDERGO DURING THEIR COMPLEX LIFE CYCLE. THE PICTURES BELOW SHOW A FEW EXAMPLES FROM OUR PRACTICAL CLASSES.

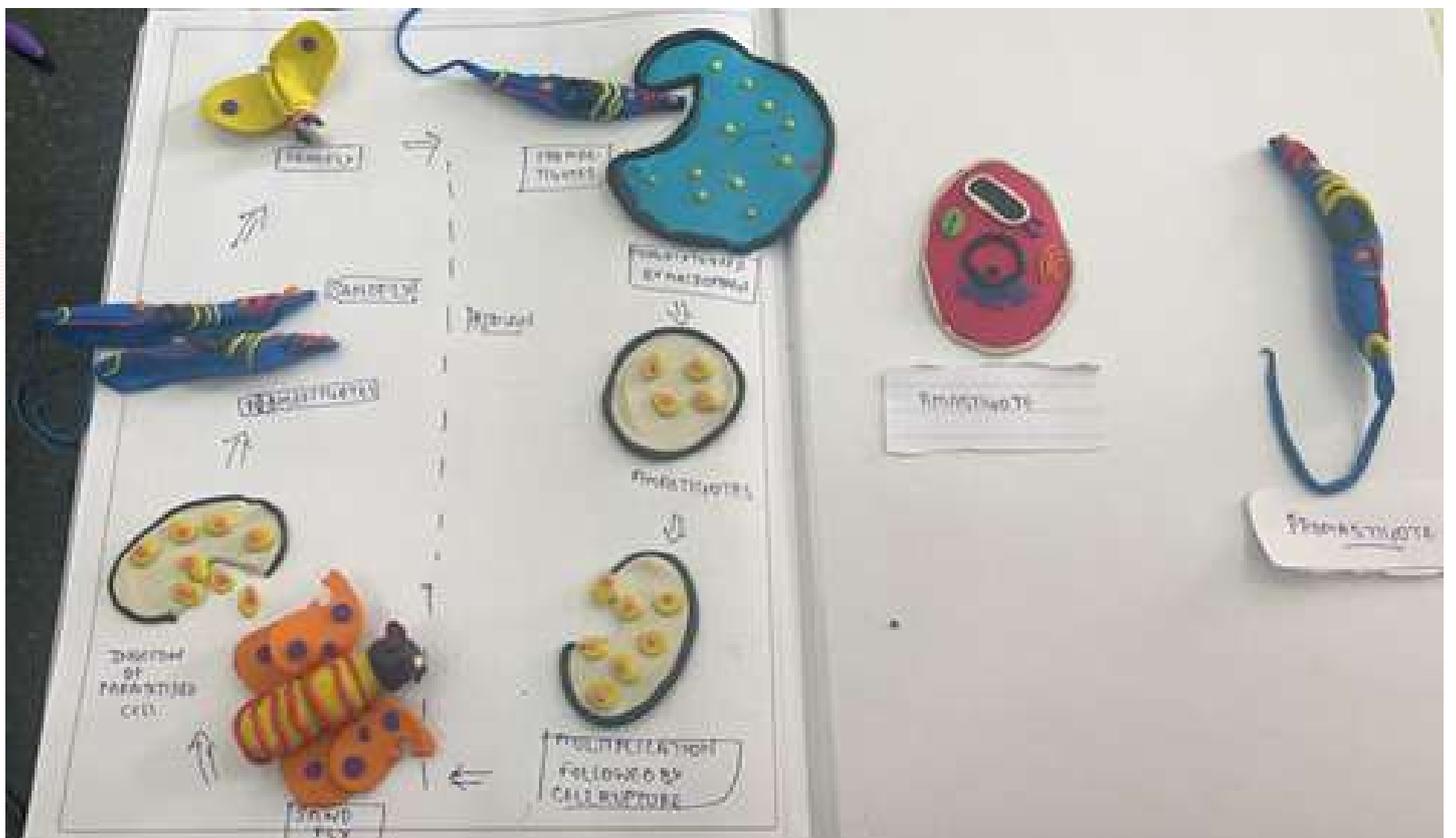
(A) TRYPANOSOMA BRUCEI GAMBIENSE



(B) PLASMODIUM VIVAX



(C) LEISHMANIA



CORRECT ANSWERS OF QUIZ QUESTIONS:

- ANSWER 1: FASCIOLOPSIS BUSKI
- ANSWER 2: SCHISTOSOMA HAEMATOBIIUM
- ANSWER 3: NEUROCYSTICERCOSIS (NCC)
- ANSWER 4: PLASMODIUM VIVAX
- ANSWER 5: MIDGUT
- ANSWER 6: SPOROZOITE
- ANSWER 7: AFRICAN SLEEPING SICKNESS
- ANSWER 8: TROPHOZOITE
- ANSWER 9: HYPNOZOITES
- ANSWER 10: MUSCLES (SKELETAL MUSCLES) OF THE PIG