



# Exploring Cancer and Genetic Disease

## Lesson plan

<p><b>Starter activity</b></p> <p>Students name as many carcinogens as they can think of and put on post-it notes on the board. (If necessary, explain what a carcinogen is).</p> <p>Students should move and place the carcinogens in order of importance (in terms of how many cancer cases they cause worldwide).</p>	<p><b>Learning objectives</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To identify some common causes of cancer.</li> <li>• To define the five groups of carcinogens.</li> <li>• To consider the way in which some specific carcinogens cause cancer.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Main activities</b></p> <p>Introduce the five groups of carcinogens: chemical compounds, infectious agents, minerals, radiation, and physiological (information from Step 2.2 can be used for this). Ask students to think of definitions for each one and guide the discussion.</p> <p>Place an A4 sign for each group in five different places around the classroom. Through discussion, students now place the carcinogen post-it notes from their list into one of the categories around the room. Can they think of any more to add now that they have considered the categories?</p> <p>Divide the class into 3 groups and ask each group to research one of the following carcinogens: UV light, hepatitis C virus, and alcohol. Each group should explore the mechanism by which each carcinogen causes cancer.</p>	<p><b>Resources required</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. A4 paper and post-it notes for signage and carcinogens.</li> <li>2. Pens.</li> <li>3. Enough space for physical movement around the room.</li> <li>4. Devices for research.</li> </ol> <p><b>Assessment for Learning</b></p> <p>Lists of carcinogens grouped into categories, monitoring student discussion, research findings.</p> <p><b>Differentiation</b></p> <p><b>SEND:</b> Teacher-led support.  <b>Low ability:</b> Peer-learning.  <b>Gifted and Talented:</b> Peer-teaching.</p> <p><b>Plenary</b></p> <p>Each of the three groups presents their findings back to the class.</p> <p>Ask students if any of the carcinogens discussed today surprised them and why.</p>