

*Science Language Students Need to Understand and Use
For Microorganisms*

1. **algae:** protists that usually live in water and can produce their own food.
2. **bacteria:** microscopic, single-celled organisms that exist around you and inside you
3. **control:** a part or variable of an experiment that is kept the same to be used for comparison
4. **culture:** to grow microorganisms in a specially prepared nutrient medium
5. **decomposer:** an organism, often a bacterium or fungus, that feeds on and breaks down dead plant or animal matter.
6. **experiment:** a series of steps to find the answer to a question
7. **fungi:** organisms that are neither plant nor animals, but have characteristics of both and absorb food from whatever they are growing on
8. **hypothesis:** an idea made into a statement that can be tested
9. **investigation:** a process designed to answer a question
10. **microorganism:** a living thing that can only be seen with the aid of magnification
11. **organism:** a living thing
12. **producer:** a living thing, like a green plant, that makes its food from simple substances usually using sunlight
13. **protozoan:** microscopic organisms that usually live in water
14. **single-celled:** any organism that has only one cell, the smallest unit of life
15. **variable:** (experimental) a part of an experiment that is changed in order to find out the effects of that change