Lesson 3 – The Evolution of Disease: Viruses, Bacteria, and Immunity

GLOSSARY

**Antibiotics**
Medicines given to treat bacterial infections.

**Antibiotic Resistance**
Decreased ability to treat an infection because the bacteria previously killed by the medication has changed, so that it is no longer as susceptible.

**Antigenic drift**
The accumulation of small genetic changes in influenza virus.

**Antigenic shift**
A dramatic change in influenza virus resulting from reassortment, or recombination, of the virus’ genes.

**Bacteria**
Single-celled microorganisms that can reproduce independently; some, but not all, may live on other organisms. They may or may not cause disease.

**Immune system**
The system of the body that protects us from infections and diseases.

**Virus**
A microorganism that cannot reproduce without infecting a living cell. It may or may not cause disease.