

## The Fungus Among Us

<http://www.virtualmuseum.ca/~mushroom/English/index2.html>

Life as we know it would not exist without fungi. They have an enormous impact on our every day lives. This online activity serves to familiarize you with the basic characteristics and roles of fungi, including their importance to humans.

### Click on **It's a Fungusful World!**:

1. List 3 types of fungi: 1) \_\_\_\_\_ 2) \_\_\_\_\_ 3) \_\_\_\_\_

### Click on **Fungus in our Lives:**

Roles of fungi:

1. Fungi is used to make \_\_\_\_\_, beers, wines, and blue cheeses.
2. Fungi are great \_\_\_\_\_, playing a major part in breaking down organic matter (decomposers).
3. Fungi supply plants with fresh \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Trees rely on networks of fungi working in partnership with their \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Fungi cause famine and \_\_\_\_\_ in plants, animals, and humans.

### Click on **Fungal Science:**

6. Until the 1700s, biologists thought fungi were \_\_\_\_\_.
7. Only when the \_\_\_\_\_ was invented were scientists able to reveal important differences.
8. All fungi are masses of fine branching threads or tubes, called \_\_\_\_\_, spreading outwards in their quest for food.
9. Unlike a plant or animal, the body of a fungus is not divided into tissues or \_\_\_\_\_.
10. Unlike plants, fungi lack \_\_\_\_\_, the molecule used in photosynthesis.
11. Fungi utilize plant or other organic matter by releasing a variety of powerful \_\_\_\_\_ into their surroundings.
12. Fungi toughen their cell walls with \_\_\_\_\_, the material that also forms the exoskeletons of insects, crabs, and lobsters.