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Exploring uncultivable microbes surround us

Project Number: 6000593

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Grant Type: TSG

Abstract:

Vast majority of human-associated microbial species have never been successfully isolated in the laboratory, presumably because their growth is dependent upon specific conditions or substances which have not been duplicated in the laboratory. But, with advanced of molecular technologies, we are exploring into the uncharted territory of the microbial world.

This project aims to raise curiosity of students in experimenting and exploring the 'mysterious' previously uncultivable microbes around them. Rich and creative media teaching materials will be produced to enhance teaching effectiveness. Interested students would be invited to collect samples around them of their interest such as skin and nasal swap samples, swimming pool sampling, etc, and to participate in cutting-edge laboratory examination. Finally, the results will be interpreted and discussed among students, TA and the teacher.