

Complex Systems PBL Unit Goals

- Students will learn the basic concepts from the field of system dynamics that lie at the heart of systems thinking, such as stocks and flows, feedback loops, unintended consequences, etc.
- Through three introductory lessons, they will learn how to view an infectious disease as a complex system, how to analyze its structure and behavior, and how to identify steps that can be taken to change that behavior.

Final Products

- Each team will submit a 700-word written essay that should explain your selected topics of Complex Systems to a general newspaper audience (as well as to your family and friends!).
- At the project's final event, each team will present a "Lightning Talk" accompanied by a slide presentation, which builds off of information included in their essay. A Lightning Talk is a 10-minute talk with 10 slides, allowing one minute for the discussion of each slide.

What products will students be turning in to assess their progress and understanding of the subject?

- 700-word essay addressed to general community/newspaper audience.
- 10 min. Lightning Talk/ Slide presentation (shared electronically).
- Written transcript of the presentation.
- A bibliography of all sources used.