

# Quick Vocabulary

## Lesson 1

**bacterium** microscopic prokaryote

**conjugation** process in which two bacteria of the same species attach to each other and share genetic material

**endospore** form of bacterium that has a thick internal wall around its chromosome and part of the cytoplasm

**fission** cell division that forms two genetically identical cells

**flagellum** long whiplike structure that helps some bacteria move

## Lesson 2

**antibiotic** medicine that stops the growth and reproduction of bacteria

**bioremediation** use of organisms to clean up environmental pollution

**decomposition** breakdown of dead organisms and organic waste

**nitrogen fixation** conversion of atmospheric nitrogen into nitrogen compounds that living things can use

**pasteurization** process of heating food to a temperature that kills most harmful bacteria

**pathogen** agent that causes disease

**resistance** capacity of an organism to defend itself against disease

# *Quick Vocabulary*

## **Lesson 3**

**antibody** protein that can attach to a pathogen and make it useless

**immunity** ability of an organism to resist a virus or infection

**mutation** change in DNA or RNA

**vaccine** mixture containing material from one or more deactivated pathogens

**virus** strand of DNA or RNA surrounded by a protein layer that can infect and replicate in a host cell