**6th Grade Science Lesson**

**1. Lesson Topic/Title and Pacing**

* **Living Environment**
* **Standard: 4**
* **Key Idea: 7 – Human decisions and activities have had a profound impact on the physical and living environment.**
* **Performance Indicator: 7.1 – Describe how living things, including humans, depend on the living and non-living environment for their survival.**
* **Major Understanding: 7.1d – Some microorganisms are essential to the survival of other living things.**

**2. Performance Objectives**

* **Describe ways in which microorganisms are essential to the survival of other living things.**

**3. Vocabulary**

* **Microorganism, bacteria, protozoans, spores, toxins, cultures, colonies**

**4. Activity**

* **Give every student a card with the name of a microorganism and a description of what the microorganism does. After reading their descriptions, have them sort themselves into categories.**

**5. Assessment/Student Outcome**

* **Identify microorganisms and their characteristics.**
* **List ways that microorganisms contribute to the survival of other organisms.**