

Everything you need to know about useful bacteria and nasty viruses

Monstrous Microbes

SEBASTIAAN VAN DONINCK & MARC VAN RANST & GEERT BOUCKAERT

In this fun looking book the authors take an accessible approach to children's most frequently asked questions about microbes, bacteria and viruses – the kinds of questions we are all preoccupied with in this era dominated by the Corona crisis. 'Monstrous Microbes' consists of five chapters, each focusing on a particular theme and subdivided into five sub-questions. We are told what microbes are, why you should wash your hands before a meal, whether the coronavirus is the nastiest virus there is and what antibiotics are. Each chapter is followed by a handy quiz, so readers can test how much they have retained about the subject. The final chapter features five easy-to-do experiments that allow young readers to think of themselves as proper microbiologists and explore the origins, appearance and spread of bacteria in a practical way.

**A fun book that's also illuminating for adults.
Boasting a surprising wealth of information**

NRC

Sebastiaan Van Doninck's illustrations are cheerful, colourful and fun. He has anthropomorphised the microbes in an engaging way: the comical creatures are eye-catching and inject a dose of humour and playfulness into the informative text. Sometimes the viruses and bacteria look nasty, sometimes almost cute.

'Monstrous Microbes' was written with children in mind, but while it unlocks a scientific subject for a young readership it is equally informative for adults.



AUTHORS



Sebastiaan Van Doninck (b. 1979) is a master at drawing animals with human characteristics, capturing them on paper with humour and graceful elegance. He knows exactly how to create a dazzling universe and has been winning plaudits for it all over the world. *Photo © Patrick Verbeeck* **Marc Van Ranst** (b. 1965) is Belgium's bestknown virologist. A professor of microbiology and immunology, he is a sought-after expert, advising the government on monstrous microbes and the coronavirus. **Geert Bouckaert** (b. 1967) is a writer, a journalist and teaches script writing.

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TRANSLATION RIGHTS Gunther Spriet - gunther.spriet@lannoo.be, Liesbeth De Bruyne - liesbeth.debruyne@lannoo.be