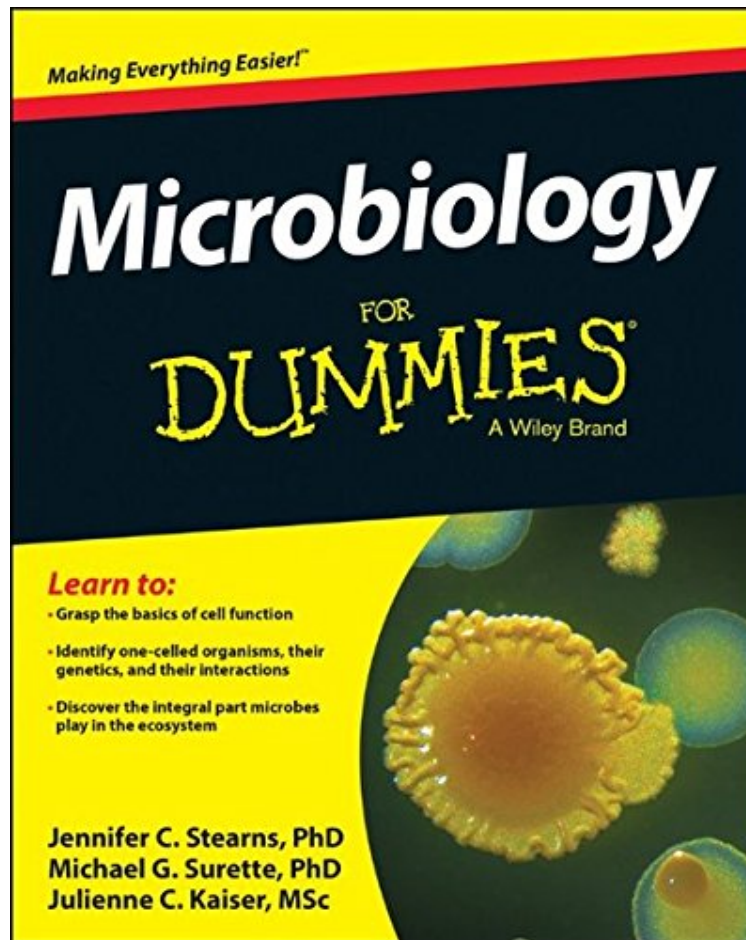


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# Microbiology For Dummies

*Jennifer Stearns, Michael Surette*  
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**Jennifer Stearns, Michael Surette : Microbiology For Dummies** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Microbiology For Dummies:

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Microbiology is the study of life itself, down to the smallest particle Microbiology is a fascinating field that explores life down to the tiniest level. Did you know that your body contains more bacteria cells than human cells? It's true.

Microbes are essential to our everyday lives, from the food we eat to the very internal systems that keep us alive. These microbes include bacteria, algae, fungi, viruses, and nematodes. Without microbes, life on Earth would not survive. It's amazing to think that all life is so dependent on these microscopic creatures, but their impact on our future is even more astonishing. Microbes are the tools that allow us to engineer hardier crops, create better medicines, and fuel our technology in sustainable ways. Microbes may just help us save the world. *Microbiology For Dummies* is your guide to understanding the fundamentals of this enormously-encompassing field. Whether your career plans include microbiology or another science or health specialty, you need to understand life at the cellular level before you can understand anything on the macro scale. Explore the difference between prokaryotic and eukaryotic cells Understand the basics of cell function and metabolism Discover the differences between pathogenic and symbiotic relationships Study the mechanisms that keep different organisms active and alive You need to know how cells work, how they get nutrients, and how they die. You need to know the effects different microbes have on different systems, and how certain microbes are integral to ecosystem health. Microbes are literally the foundation of all life, and they are everywhere. *Microbiology For Dummies* will help you understand them, appreciate them, and use them.

From the Back Cover Learn to: Grasp the basics of cell function Identify one-celled organisms, their genetics, and their interactions Discover the integral part microbes play in the ecosystem Make sense of the study of life down to the tiniest organism Does microbiology make your head spin? You're not alone. Luckily, this down-to-earth guide makes the study of this enormously encompassing subject accessible and fun. In no time, you'll grasp life at the cellular level and transfer your knowledge of this minuscule topic to score big at exam time! It's a small world uncover the imperceptibly small without losing sight of the big picture with a plain-English intro to the fascinating subject of microbiology Meet the microorganisms get to know the main types of microorganisms and the set of tools used to study them More than a bad rap find out why microorganisms play a surprisingly vital role in the health of an ecosystem Behind microbial bars step into the microbial cell and understand how they obtain energy and convert carbon into cellular material Fight the good fight discover how to identify a microbial pathogen, find a list of diseases caused by microorganisms, and get the latest information on vaccines Open the book and find: Easy-to-follow explanations of microbial life What you need to know about photosynthesis Plain-English explanations of the process of chemolithotrophy The scoop on comparing respiration and fermentation Tips on taking the mystery out of words ending in omics Creative ways to look at microbial communities About the Author Jennifer C. Stearns, PhD, is a Postdoctoral Fellow in the Department of Medicine at McMaster University where, along with Dr. Surette, she pushes the boundaries of medical microbiology. Michael G. Surette, PhD, is appointed to both the Department of Medicine and the Department of Biochemistry and Biomedical Sciences at McMaster University. Julianne C. Kaiser, MSc, is a PhD candidate in the Department of Microbiology and Immunology at Western University where she studies drug-resistant bacteria.