

**TITLLE: MICROBIOLOGY IN SECONDARY EDUCATION: PERCEPTION OF STUDENTS FROM A PUBLIC SCHOOL IN STATE OF PARAIBA**

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**ABSTRACT:**

Microbiology is understood as the science that studies microscopic beings and their biological activities. In basic education, microbiology is seen in primary education II, in the 7th to question aspects related to both human health and the conservation of biological balance, as well as its great industrial importance. But often, this theme is ignored by teachers who do not give due attention to it and this generates a deficit in the teaching process, thus hampering student learning. In this way, it is perceived that the teaching of microbiology in basic education, requires a special look of the teachers. Based on this, the objective of this work is to identify the students' perceptions about microorganisms, besides observing the topics studied in high school and analyzing the effectiveness of teaching in this area. The quantitative research was carried out at the Public School of Elementary and High School Manoel Medeiros de Araújo, in Vista Serrana city, State of Paraíba, through a structured questionnaire with 15 questions on microorganisms, applied in the three high school grades during the classes. The results show that the third year group has a greater understanding about microorganisms, however, most of the students had difficulties in identifying the presence of microbiology in other areas, such as in the manufacture of foods, in addition, they were shown confused in identifying the causative agents of some diseases and did not know how to define microbiology. The work also showed that there is a lack of experimental classes not only in teaching about microorganisms, but in the discipline of biology in general. Therefore, it is concluded that a greater approach is needed on the microorganisms and their functions, besides the association of these beings with the daily life, adopting strategies of teaching that prioritize an efficient learning of the students.

**Keywords:** Microorganisms. Health. Knowledge. Learning. Conceptions.