



Tiny Earth

studentsourcing antibiotic discovery

Tiny Earth is a worldwide network of students-scientists tackling head on one of the most pressing global health challenges of our time – superbugs and the antibiotic crisis.

We are part of a team of students taking a hands-on laboratory-based course hunting for new antibiotics in the soil. Rather than relying on cookbook experiments with predetermined results, we collect soil samples, isolate bacteria, and test strains for inhibitory activity against pathogens similar to ones that have developed resistance to existing antibiotics. Our research is particularly relevant as most antibiotics come from soil bacteria.

Tiny Earth teaches students to learn by doing. The course provides students with an opportunity for original thinking and scientific discovery, thereby capturing the very aspects of science that hook many scientists on their craft. Students learn the way practicing scientists learn because the course asks students to be scientists for a semester rather than just learn about science that others have discovered.

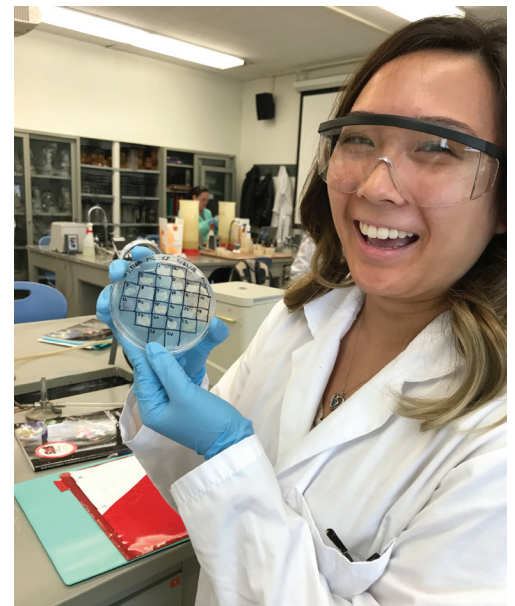


photo by Enid Gonzalez-Orta, CSUS



Tiny Earth is part of a network of more than 250 institutions across 41 states and 15 countries hunting for novel antibiotics in the soil. Our students join thousands of student researchers around the world in the quest to discover new antibiotics. This “crowdsourcing” model may provide a unique and sustainable path to replenish the antibiotic pipeline.

You can help!

Instead of taking small samples from soil on campus, **Tiny Earth** students are maximizing microbial diversity and collecting soil samples from across our region.

(Photo by Bryce Richter / UW-Madison)



We'd like a piece of your dirt!

If you agree to donate a soil sample to our research, we will update you throughout the semester on our findings, including description of the antibiotic-producing bacteria discovered. At the end of the semester, we will invite you to our poster session on campus where **Tiny Earth** students will explain details of our findings and you can explain the soil's unique characteristics and uses.

Thank you for supporting **Tiny Earth**!

Soil Donor's Information:

Name: Emily Rozok

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Signature: *Emily Rozok*

In return for your donation, we promise that any money we may earn on discoveries made using your dirt will be used exclusively for non-profit education and research.