## Fundamentalism and Terrorism Anti-Terrorism Campaign



### STUDENT ACTIVITY: Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear Countermeasures

# The United States Department of Homeland Security, Division of Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear Countermeasures

Write your group's description of the roles and responsibilities of this division, and then answer the questions that follow. Use additional paper if necessary.

Roles:

**Responsibilities:** 

According to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security Web site,

(<u>http://www.whitehouse.gov/deptofhomeland/</u>), the Division of Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear Countermeasures would lead the federal government's efforts in preparing for and responding to the full range of terrorist threats involving weapons of mass destruction.

1. Describe how exercises and drills for federal, state, and local chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear (CBRN) response teams and plans would help prepare our country for possible terrorist attacks.

2. What could this division do to unify our defenses against human, animal, and plant diseases that could be used as terrorist weapons?

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3. In what ways should this division strengthen national research programs and surveillance systems to shield agriculture from natural or deliberately induced pests and diseases?

4. Describe how this division should develop and deploy new technologies and systems for safeguarding nuclear material stockpiles and for detecting the movement of those materials.

5. Describe how a national public health data surveillance system would monitor public and private databases for indications that a bioterrorist attack has occurred. Describe a potential sensor network to detect and report the release of bioterrorist pathogens in densely populated areas.

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