Practicum 11-S Slime Mold Plating

**Goal:** To gain skills in biological specimen handling and sterile technique. And to produce viable cultures of slime mold for future use. And to gather the necessary data for our experiment.

**Rules:**

1. Learn about sterile technique.
2. Use a Bunsen burner and glass rod to make a petri spreader.
3. Learn how to pour agar plates.
4. Learn how to streak agar plates and isolate cultures.
5. Analyze our cultures by visual classification.
6. Make as many sub-cultures as we can.
7. Begin tracking our cultures via photo.
8. Begin timing our slime mold growth pattern to establish the

experimental parameters for the ISS experiment.

1. Begin timing the response time to new food sites.
2. Force sporulation and time the response.

**Thoughts:**

1. How many types of slime mold do we want?
2. How many timing events are necessary for good data?
3. What happens if the slime molds die?
4. How liable to infection are slime molds?
5. How will we keep the slime molds in stasis for 2 weeks?
6. What will we feed them?



The elusive happy-blue-drop slime mold.