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One Health Detectives: Gamification as a Strategy for Inclusive Zoonosis Education in Latin American Schools

Tuesday, October 6, 2026 9:00 AM (15 minutes)

Introduction: Giardiasis is a prevalent zoonosis in Latin America and a suitable model for teaching One Health. Integrating these concepts into primary education requires inclusive and active methodologies, particularly in vulnerable schools. **Objective:** To report a gamified educational intervention for giardiasis prevention and assess its feasibility and replication potential. **Methodology:** A 14-member interdisciplinary undergraduate team (Veterinary Medicine, Nursing, Environmental Sciences, and Education) conducted an intervention with 120 students aged 12–14 years, including students with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). Activities included storytelling (“One Health Detectives”), a recycled-material quiz, treasure hunt, and a giant human board game designed for peer replication. Feasibility was assessed using SWOT analysis. **Results:** Inclusive strategies supported ASD student participation through sensory and collaborative activities. The peer-to-peer model increased engagement among participants. SWOT analysis identified interdisciplinarity and proactivity as strengths, while time limitations and school bureaucracy were challenges. Expansion opportunities and quantitative evaluation were highlighted. Low-cost materials demonstrated high cost-effectiveness. **Conclusion:** Gamification combined with peer education is an inclusive, affordable, and replicable approach for promoting One Health in vulnerable Latin American settings.

Keywords

One Health; Health Education; Zoonosis Prevention; Giardiasis

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Professional Status of the Speaker

Professor

Junior Scientist Status

Yes, I am a Junior Scientist.

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