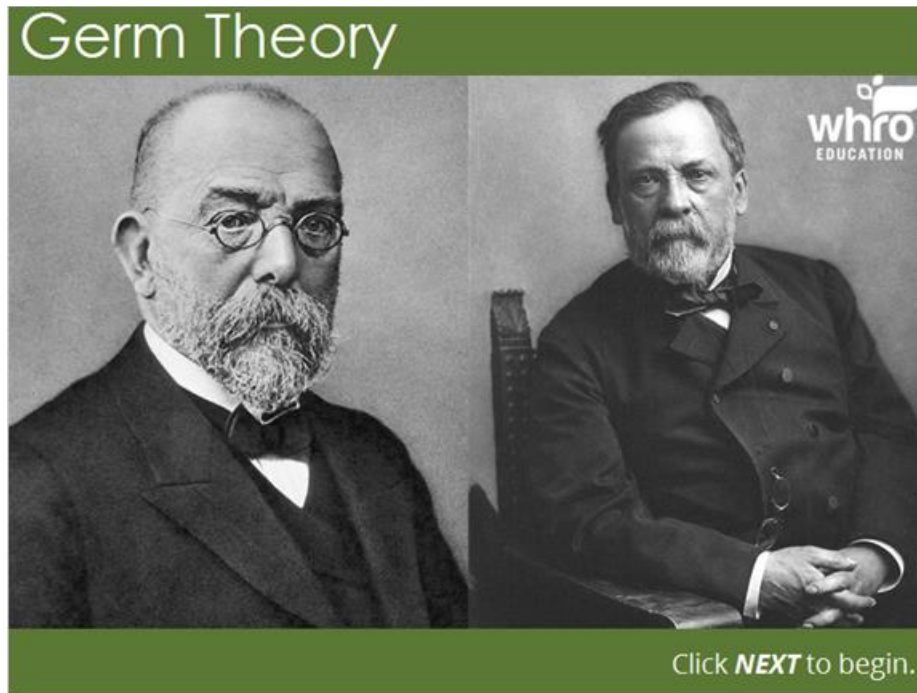


**Module 10: Classification - Diversity in the Six Kingdoms**  
**Topic 1 Content: Germ Theory Notes**

**Introduction**

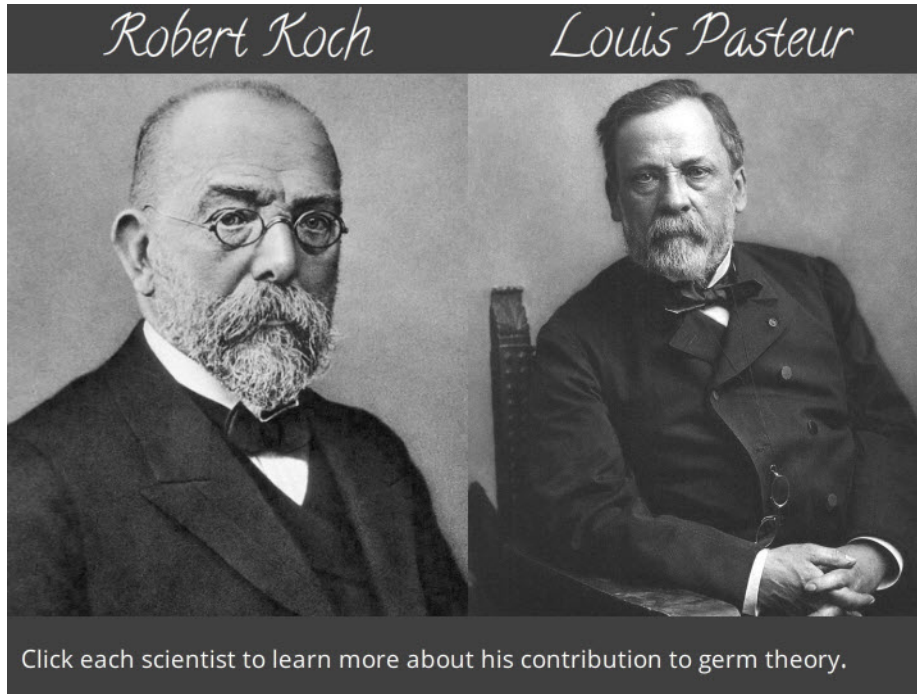


Germ Theory

Click **NEXT** to begin.

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**Topic 1 Content: Germ Theory Notes**

**Pasteur and Koch**



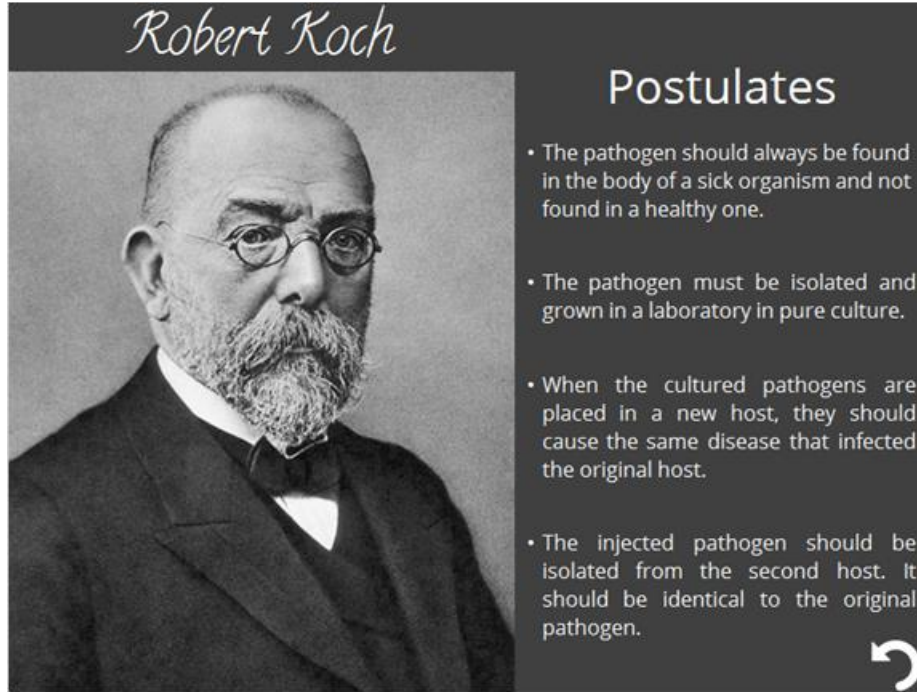
Germ theory began when Louis Pasteur and Robert Koch discovered that pathogens commonly made people sick. Pathogens are bacteria, viruses, or other microorganisms commonly referred to as germs. Because of the work of Pasteur and Koch, scientists were able to adopt modern health practices to prevent disease and fight infection.

Click each scientist to learn more about his contribution to germ theory.

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### Topic 1 Content: Germ Theory Notes

#### Robert Koch



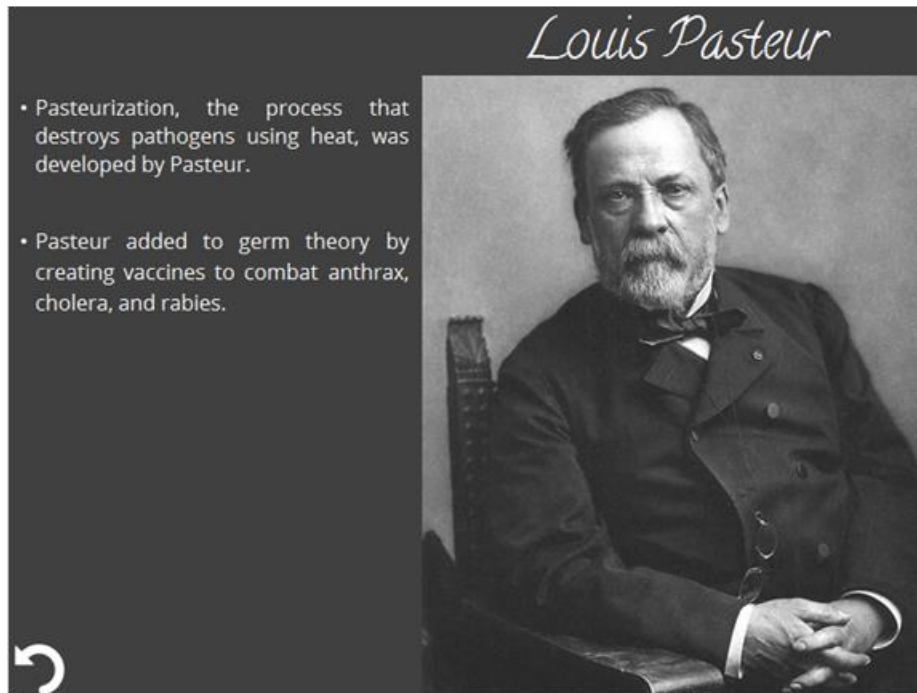
Robert Koch studied various microorganisms that cause disease and formed certain rules known as Koch's postulates. These rules are very important in the medical community, as they help biologists identify pathogens that cause disease. Once scientists were able to identify the cause of certain diseases, they could prevent and cure these diseases. These postulates are as follows:

1. The pathogen should always be found in the body of a sick organism and not found in a healthy one.
2. The pathogen must be isolated and grown in a laboratory in pure culture.
3. When the cultured pathogens are placed in a new host, they should cause the same disease that infected the original host.
4. The injected pathogen should be isolated from the second host. It should be identical to the original pathogen.

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### Topic 1 Content: Germ Theory Notes

#### Louis Pasteur



If you have ever looked on a milk or juice carton and seen the word “pasteurized,” you have witnessed a marking of French chemist Louis Pasteur, another pioneer in understanding pathogens. Pasteurization, the process that destroys pathogens using heat, was developed by Pasteur.

Pasteur added to germ theory by creating vaccines to combat anthrax, cholera, and rabies. Later, all of these vaccines would be refined.