

# The Danger of Science Denial

## TED Lectures

### Note-taking Activity

**Directions:** First listen to the lecture and take notes. Then using your notes, you will answer the following questions.

1. Why according to the speaker is this the best time to live on this planet?
2. Why can a child born in New Delhi today expect to live as long as the wealthiest man did 100 years ago?
3. What are two of the triumphs of the scientific method?
4. How many people still go to bed hungry every day?
5. How does the speaker see progress being battled today?
6. Mr. Specter lists Chernobyl, Bhopal, the Space Shuttle Challenger and other technological disasters to illustrate a point. What is the point he is making?
7. Did the scientific studies on the measles, mumps, and rubella vaccine support the story that claimed it was linked to autism?
8. What effect has that story had on vaccine rates in the United States?
9. How many people die from the measles every hour worldwide?
10. Why does the lecturer think his friend should give her child the polio vaccine?
11. Why does the lecturer equate alternative medicine or “big placebo”, as he calls it, with lies?
12. According to the lecture why are the arguments against GMO (genetically modified organisms/food) ridiculous?
13. How much more food will have to be grown in the next 50 years to feed the world?
14. Why is genetically engineered food effecting investment in African agriculture?