



# The Mushroom

Everything I  
Wanted to Know

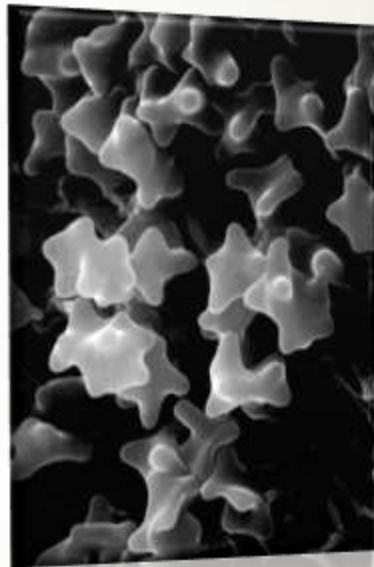
# Do mushrooms grow in Ohio?

- According to the Ohio State University Extension Office, there are more than 2000 kinds of wild mushrooms that grow in Ohio.



# How do mushrooms reproduce?

- Mushrooms can reproduce by sending out spores, or by growing directly from the parent.



# Are all mushrooms edible?

- Edible – most easily gotten in stores and can be very nutritious
- Toxic – some can be deadly!
- Psychoactive – help produce altered states of consciousness
- Medicinal – help heal illnesses



# Are they endangered?

- In certain situations, yes
  - In 2007, Switzerland red-listed nearly 1,000 species of mushrooms in danger of extinction
  - Agarikon mushrooms in the Pacific Northwest are going extinct and these can cure smallpox and a few other illnesses

This is mycologist Paul Stamets with the Agarikon.



# What colors are mushrooms?

- [www.kingdomoffungi.com](http://www.kingdomoffungi.com) lists more than fifty colors and color-combinations



# The End

- I learned more than I knew about mushrooms.
  - For example, I learned that an endangered species of mushrooms could cure smallpox and a few other diseases.
  - Mushrooms come in more colors than anyone could imagine