AI SAFETY SANDBOX · BIOSECURITY

Write the “far-UVC in ten minutes” explainer

Starter · A weekend · Free · Step-by-step guide

Online version: https://ai-safety-sandbox.vercel.app/projects/far-uvc-explainer/

Summary

Far-UVC light might kill airborne germs in occupied rooms. Write the clear, honest explainer the field is missing: what it is, how it works, what the evidence says, and what is still uncertain.

Why it matters

New protective technologies only get adopted if people understand and trust them. The source list calls out clear far-UVC explainers as a gap a beginner can fill.

What you will have at the end

A 1,000-word explainer (or a short video) that a non-scientist can follow.

Steps (tick each box as you go)

- [ ] **1. Read the blueprint (1 hr)**
  Start with Blueprint Biosecurity’s work on far-UVC. List the five questions a sceptical friend would ask.
- [ ] **2. Collect the evidence (2 hr)**
  For each question, find the best source you can. Mark which answers are well established and which are still open.
- [ ] **3. Draft for one reader (2 hr)**
  Write for a specific person: a school governor, a café owner, a parent. Use one everyday comparison and define every technical term.
- [ ] **4. Add the honest caveats (1 hr)**
  Include costs, open safety questions, and what would change your mind. Trust comes from being clear about uncertainty.
- [ ] **5. Test, revise, publish (1 hr)**
  Ask two non-experts to read it and tell you where they got lost. Fix those parts and share it.

What you need

- Time to read carefully
- A friend willing to give feedback

What you will learn

- How far-UVC works and where the evidence stands
- Writing about uncertain science honestly
- Why public trust matters for adoption

Key terms

Far-UVC
A band of ultraviolet light (around 200–235 nm) studied as a way to kill airborne germs in occupied rooms.

Source and links

Hatta & Bazarragchaa — A hundred project ideas in biosecurity (2025)
https://casualphysicsenjoyer.com/Essays+in+progress/Biosecurity/A+hundred+project+ideas+in+Biosecurity

Blueprint Biosecurity
https://blueprintbiosecurity.org/

When you have finished

Write a few paragraphs on what you did, what you found and what you would try next, and share it with a friend, your society or online.

Try next: Far-UVC project ideas
https://ai-safety-sandbox.vercel.app/projects/far-uvc-ideas/

Courses, mentors, small grants and communities:
https://ai-safety-sandbox.vercel.app/next-steps/

Questions? Ask in AI Safety Cardiff University (AISCU): https://aiscu.org/

Notes