Viewing Bacteria Under Oil Immersion

1. Protect your high dry objective lens with finger cot.
2. Place slide on mechanical stage.
   - Make sure side of slide with smear is facing up.
3. View smear at low power.
   - Can’t see much, but you use this step to get the smear crisply in focus.
4. Place a drop of immersion oil directly onto bacterial smear.
5. Switch to oil immersion lens.
   - Do not move the focus or stage when switching objectives.
6. **ONLY USE FINE FOCUS ADJUSTMENT!!!**
7. View individual bacterial cells, either round or rod shaped, depending on type of bacteria.
8. When done, use lens paper to clean your lenses and remove any oil from the stage.
9. Store scope with shortest, scanning lens (4x, red banded) pointing down and stage lowered as far as it will go.

- **DO NOT EVER** use coarse focus when working with high dry or oil immersion objective lenses.

From the Virtual Microbiology Classroom on ScienceProfOnline.com