

SCRUBBING GERMS

LEARNING OUTCOME

Reminder – Since germs are not visible to the naked eye, it is harder for children to understand that there are germs on our hands that need to be washed away. This activity allows the children to ‘see’ the germs being scrubbed away.

DURATION (10 MINUTES) - INSTRUCTIONS

Children will get a ‘germ’ drawn onto their hands, they will then be asked to wash it away using the 1,2,3 Germ Free steps.

If the class is large, split the class up into tables. For example, if there are 5 children sat at each table, you may select a different table each day providing that the children are seated in those same seats each time. This way each ‘table’ gets a turn at scrubbing the germ away.

1. Select a table/group of children
2. Using a pen/marker that is not permanent, draw a ‘germ’ onto the palms of their hands. The germ could be as simple as a sad face.
3. Allow the children to go wash their hands, prompting them to remember and complete each step of hand washing (1,2,3). Give them at least 20 seconds to complete this, as this is at least how long they should wash their hands for.
4. When the children return, check to see if the ‘germ’ has disappeared.
5. After the group has returned you can allow another table/group to have a go depending on how much time you have.

VERBAL INSTRUCTIONS

Teacher - Today it’s this table’s turn to scrub the germ off of their hands. I’m going to draw a germ on your hand, and then I will let you go to the toilets to wash it off. Remember to follow each step, using soap first and then water. Don’t forget to dry your hands really well too. After you’ve done, please come back to the classroom and show me your hands. Make sure that the germ has disappeared.



Resources: flash cards, white board to write down answer (optional)