

# Glitter Hands

*This lesson was written in January 2021 and reflects information available, and guidance issued at the time.*



## Objectives:

- To explain how a virus spreads through touch, drawing on evidence from their observations
- To understand how the transmission of the virus can be limited by washing hands with soap.
- To explain how soap kills the virus.

## Curriculum Links:

- **KS2 – PSHE (from PSHE Association): H9.** Pupils learn that bacteria and viruses can affect health; how everyday hygiene routines can limit the spread of infection;
- **Y5&6- Science:** planning different types of scientific enquiries to answer questions

## Key Vocabulary:

- virus
- germs
- spreading germs
- contaminated surfaces

## Resources:

- PowerPoint
- Glitter (or pepper)
- Shallow trays/washing up bowls
- Soap/washing up liquid
- PVA glue
- Oil or Paint

## FAQs:

**Why do we need to use soap (not just water)?** It's important to use soap and warm water to wash our hands, as the coronavirus likes to stick to our skin using the natural oil we have on our hands. Soap breaks up this oil (which is why our hands can feel dry sometimes after we wash them), and then the warm water can wash the virus germs down the plughole.

**How long should we wash hands for? How often?** Wash often (and after touching objects and surfaces, for 20 seconds – you can sing Happy Birthday song twice in 20 seconds!)

Year 5-6

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## Introduction:

10 mins



This lesson's video introduction - puppet will look at how the virus spreads through touching surfaces.

Washing your hands is the best way to stop the virus from spreading. Think about all of the things that you touched today, they may have been contaminated with COVID-19 (or other viruses!) and it's easy to get it from your hands into your body.

Talk about how soap helps to kill the virus.

Mention that sometimes we use Hand Sanitiser, when we don't have access to Soap and water. The alcohol in Hand Sanitiser also breaks down the oily "shell" and kills germs on our hands.

## Main Activity:

15 mins



Demonstration: Glitter (or pepper) in a bowl and put a soapy finger in, to demonstrate germs "fleeing" from the soap.

### Experiment: why is using soap important.

3 trays with some water and glitter:

Test by dipping your finger in the tray, **what happens?** (glitter sticks to finger)

Now test by dipping your finger in some PVA glue and putting it in the tray - **what happens to glitter? what about dipping in some oil or paint?**

Test again using soap on the finger - **what happens? Why?**

Record your findings as a whole class on PowerPoint slide/Interactive whiteboard (or using a flipchart) - OR record on individual worksheets.

## Plenary:

5 mins



- Children explain what happened during the experiment
- Explain how washing hands helps to limit the spread of the virus
- Remind how long to wash hands for and the correct hand washing technique (Link to lesson number one with their rap of the rules)



## Possible Extension Activities:

- What else could you test? Temperature of the water – does warm soapy water work better than cold soapy water? Varying the amount of soap in the same amount of water?

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## Worksheet

### Soap Experiment

We tested how the soap works on germs.

We used glitter as a representation of the "germs" .

Tray 1

- Glitter in water
- dipped clean finger

Tray 2

- Glitter in water
- dipped finger in \_\_\_\_\_ then in the tray

Tray 3

- Glitter in water
- covered finger in soap first, then dipped in the tray

Draw and label what happened



Draw and label what happened



Draw and label what happened



Write what you learned about how the soap works:

