

Sneaky Germ Skit



Oregon State
University

Note: Prior to starting skit, choose three student volunteers (volunteer A and volunteer B and Narrator). Make a copy of the skit for the Narrator to read the parts.

Narrator:

Welcome to our Sneaky Germ Skit!

Did you know that germs such as bacteria and viruses are found everywhere? They are in the air you breathe, the food you eat, in the water you drink, and on everything you touch. They are even on your skin and in your body!

The best way to prevent getting sick is to wash your hands. By washing your hands you help to stop the spreading of germs.



Educator says to the class:

Now our volunteers (A and B), insert student names, will help demonstrate the best way to wash your hands. First, our volunteers will put Glitter Buddy-type lotion on their hands.

Ad lib: Instruct volunteer A to hold up the Glitter Buddy-type lotion bottle, then A and B put lotion on their hands.

Glitter Buddy-type lotion will show under black light where germs could be lurking on A's hands

Ad lib: Instruct volunteer B to hold up the black light and examines hands of volunteer A with the black light. Have an audience member confirm the presence of the white, chalky-looking substance.

Educator says to the class:

Good job, (volunteer names). Now our volunteers will demonstrate how to remove the lotion, which represents bacteria that could be harmful.

Ad lib the process: Only A washes hands: use 1 squirt of liquid soap, start rubbing, check the clock-B can keep track of time, front and back of hands, finger nails, between fingers and wrists, lather for 20 seconds. Ask class to mock-lather up and rub, too. Anti-bacterial soap is not needed and could cause more harm than good if not used properly.

Narrator says to the class while all are lathering:

It is very important to scrub your hands for 20 seconds before eating and preparing food. This helps to ensure that germs that can make you sick get washed off your hands. It is also very important to be sure to scrub all of the hard to reach places on your hands, such as in between your fingers and under your fingernails.



As Educator and the Narrator are sharing this information, volunteer A should continue scrubbing/lathering and be sure to demonstrate scrubbing the hard to reach areas. This will also give volunteer A extra time to ensure that they have scrubbed well enough to wash off all of the “Glitter Buddy” lotion. Volunteer B should report “Ding” when 20 seconds are up or when the Narrator finishes, whichever is last.

Educator says to the class:

Now that (volunteer A) has scrubbed for 20 seconds, (volunteer B) will pour warm water over your hands while you rub them gently, until you feel that the soap/lotion has been rinsed off.

Dry your hands with a clean paper towel.

Ad Lib: Instruct volunteer B to hold up black light again over volunteer A’s hands.

*THE GLOW LIGHT WILL SHINE ON HANDS REVEALING NO GLOWING SPOTS, hopefully, 😊
Take a bow. 😊*

Ad Lib: Instruct B to (fake) SNEEZE INTO HIS/HER HANDS, then shakes hand of volunteer A to congratulate him/her on having clean hands. Some students may notice and point out the spreading of germs through the sneeze. Thank that student for the “Sneaky Germ Alert!” If not, then you will need to Call Out a “Sneaky Germ Alert” and point out the Sneaky Germs that may have spread to the clean hands of A. Instruct volunteer B to shine the light on the hands of volunteer A (and volunteer B), revealing the brand new germs just spread from the sneeze.

Educator says to the class:

Thank you to our cast, A, B and Narrator (use names, if possible) today for their great work to promote food safety. Class, you need to be aware of Sneaky Germs. We are going to play a game now to make us more aware of when we need to wash our hands because those Sneaky Germs spread very easily.

Discussion Questions:

- What are the rules for proper hand washing?
- In the skit, how were germs spread from the student volunteers?
- What are some other ways that germs can be spread?
- Why is it always important to wash your hands before eating and preparing food?

Play *Win, Lose or Wash*.



Win, Lose or Wash Game



Objective: To learn how germs spread

Supplies and equipment:

- Two flip charts with easels or eight flip chart size post-its to put on the wall.
- Two or more markers.
- Cards with picture clues, four for each team.
- Stop watch

Before game begins: Set up two flipcharts with easels. Option: Each team will need four pages of flip chart size “post-its” to put on the wall or board.

Divide the youth into two groups. Each group will select a team captain who will select three people to draw. Other team members will try to guess what is being drawn that represents the ways we get germs.

A stopwatch will be set for two minutes. The team who has the drawer gets to guess first. If the responsible team fails to guess, the opposition gets a 30-second try.

PICTURES CLUES for some of the Ways we get germs...

Sneezing

Coughing

Drinking another’s drink

Cut on your skin

Doorknobs

Telephones

Toilets

Hair

Congratulate the players for their creativity and cooperation. Ask audience to name the times that you should wash your hands.¹

Before, during, and after preparing food

Before eating food

Before and after caring for someone at home who is sick with vomiting or diarrhea

Before and after treating a cut or wound

After using the toilet

After changing diapers or cleaning up a child who has used the toilet

After blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing

After touching an animal, animal feed, or animal waste

After handling pet food or pet treats

After touching garbage

¹Centers for Disease Control. **When and How to Wash your Hands**,
<https://www.cdc.gov/handwashing/when-how-handwashing.html> Retrieved 06/18/2020.

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Win, Lose or Wash Game Cards

Sneezing



Coughing



Hair



Cut on your skin



Doorknobs



Telephones



Toilets



Eating/Drinking someone else's food

