

# GUIDE TO CONDUCTING A HANDWASHING DEMONSTRATION AT YOUR SECONDARY SCHOOL

## MATERIALS NEEDED

- **Posters**
  - [Correct Handwashing Procedures](#)
  - [How to correctly use hand sanitizer](#)
- **Glo-Germ kit (optional, if purchased)**
- **Washable paint (Optional if available)**
- **Sink access (soap and water)**

## SCRIPT FOR SECONDARY SCHOOLS

<b><i>Introduction</i></b>	Good morning/afternoon. My name is _____.
<b><i>I am here...</i></b>	To talk about germs and how to get rid of them by proper handwashing! Handwashing is the most important way to stop the spread of germs!

### PUBLIC HEALTH

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<b><i>Did you know?</i></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ You spend approximately 1/3 of your entire day at school</li> <li>▪ An estimated 80% of common infectious diseases (like the common cold and influenza/flu) are spread by contaminated hands!</li> </ul>
<b><i>Germs</i></b>	
Where can we find germs at school/work?	Frequently touched surfaces – including bathroom (e.g., toilet, tap), keyboards, desk, door knobs, light switches, pens, pencils, playground
What kind of germs can you find at school?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Viruses</b> - COVID-19, influenza (the flu), rhinovirus, adenovirus (causes common cold), norovirus (commonly called “Norwalk”)</li> <li>▪ <b>Bacteria</b> - <i>E.coli</i> (e.g. ground beef), <i>Salmonella</i> (e.g., chicken)</li> <li>▪ <b>Parasites</b> - <i>Giardia lamblia</i> (e.g., river water)</li> </ul>
How do germs get into our body?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A sick person can pass their germs to others through coughing, sneezing and hands</li> <li>▪ Germs can survive on hard surfaces up to 2 days!</li> <li>▪ When we touch contaminated surfaces, we can pick up the germs on our own hands</li> <li>▪ If we touch our eyes, noses, or mouth, germs can get into our body</li> </ul>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ How do you know you are sick?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Respiratory - coughing, sneezing, sore throat, wheezing</li> <li>▪ Enteric - stomach cramps, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea</li> <li>▪ Other - headache, fever, chills, muscle aches, tiredness</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ What should we do when we are sick?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Stay home when you are sick (limit contact with others) and get plenty of rest</li> </ul> <p>Cough/sneeze into the elbow of your arm - <b>never cough or sneeze into your hand!</b></p>
<p><b><i>Handwashing</i></b></p>	
<p>Why is it important?</p>	<p>It is the single most effective way to prevent yourself and others from getting sick.</p> <p>Let's now have a demonstration to see how well handwashing removes germs from our hands...</p>
<p>What do you need to wash hands?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Warm water:</b> Use water that is comfortably warm to wash your hands</li> <li>▪ <b>Soap:</b> <u>Bar or Liquid?</u> Use liquid, bar soap can actually have germs on it. <u>Antibacterial or regular?</u> Use regular. Research shows antibacterial soap offers no benefit over regular soaps in preventing common illnesses like the flu.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Friction/Rubbing Action:</b> This is one of the most important steps. Rubbing hands together (for a minimum of 15 seconds) helps loosen and lift germs so that they can be rinsed away with water.</li> <li>▪ <b>Drying hands:</b> Use paper towels or air-dry hands</li> </ul> <p>Note: <b>Hand sanitizer</b>, if soap and running water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer. If hands are visibly soiled, use a moist towelette before applying the hand sanitizer.</p>
When can I use hand sanitizer?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ If soap and running water are not available, and hands are visibly clean, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.</li> <li>▪ If hands are visibly soiled, use a moist towelette before applying the hand sanitizer.</li> </ul>
When should you clean your hands?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>If hands look or feel dirty</b></li> <li>▪ <b>Before...</b> eating, drinking, preparing, cooking or serving food</li> <li>▪ <b>After...</b> blowing your nose, coughing or sneezing, playing outside or with animals, going to the washroom or handling garbage</li> </ul>
Let's review how to wash our	<p><b>*Show Poster 'Correct Handwashing Procedures'</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"> <a href="#">English/French</a> <span style="margin-left: 200px;"><a href="#">English/Italian/Chinese</a></span> </p>





**Clean Hands –  
soap and water**

There should be a significant reduction in the paint visible on their hands compared to the first two volunteers. Discuss areas that are commonly missed during handwashing (where paint is still visible); around the thumbs and wrists, between the fingers and underneath the fingernails. Encourage the audience to pay extra attention to these areas when they are washing hands. Explain that real germs can be washed off through proper handwashing.

- **Thank volunteers**, allow them to wash their hands if they wish, have them return to their seats.

***Option #2 - Glow-germ Activity – To be completed if you have purchased the supplies ()***

- Select **3 volunteers** from the audience.
- Ask volunteers to **roll up their sleeves**, if necessary
- **Distribute** a dime sized amount of “**Glow**” lotion to each volunteer
- Have them **rub the lotion all over hands until no longer visible** – pretend germs are like real germs; we cannot see them
  
- **Designate each volunteer to take on a different role:**
  - The person with “**dirty**” hands - they had no time to wash their hands.
  - The person with “**semi-dirty**” hands – they only rinsed their hands with water.
  - The person with “**clean**” hands – they washed their hands following the *Correct Handwashing Procedure*.

<p><b>Look at hands</b></p> <p><b>Dirty Hands – did not wash</b></p> <p><b>Semi-Dirty Hands – only used water</b></p> <p><b>Clean Hands – soap and water</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Once the volunteers who were “washing” their hands have returned, <b>turn on the UV light</b> (you may have to dim the lights in the room). One-by-one, expose the volunteer’s hands to the UV light to illuminate the residual lotion or pretend germs.</li> <li>• <b>Start with the volunteer with “dirty” (unwashed) hands.</b> The Glow Lotion will glow white under the light. Explain that the white glow shows where the pretend germs are on their hands. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Have the person touch a surface</b> and shine the UV light on the surface to further demonstrate transfer of germs.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Next, examine the volunteer with “semi-dirty” hands.</b> There should be a slight reduction in the areas that glow purple when compared to the person with “dirty” hands, but they should still have a large amount.</li> <li>• <b>Lastly, look at the volunteer with “clean” hands.</b> There should be a significant reduction in the areas that glow purple when compared to the first two people. Discuss areas that are commonly missed during handwashing (where Glow Lotion was still illuminated under the light); around the thumbs and wrists, between the fingers and underneath the fingernails. Encourage the audience to pay extra attention to these areas when they are washing hands. Explain that like the lotion, real germs can be washed off through proper handwashing.</li> <li>• <b>Thank volunteers</b>, allow them to wash their hands if they wish, have them return to their seats.</li> </ul>
<p><b>End Session</b></p>	<p>Thank participants for their time and answer any questions.</p>



# HOW TO USE HAND SANITIZER

**1** Apply enough to cover both hands



**2** Rub hands and around all fingers



**3** Rub hands until dry (minimum 15 seconds)



## Important Tips:

- To ensure proper hand hygiene, remove hand and wrist jewellery
- Use hand sanitizer if hands are not visibly dirty
- Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that has 70-90% alcohol with a Natural Product Number (NPN)
- Do not apply hand sanitizer near an open flame

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# HOW TO HANDWASH

Procédure correcte de lavage des mains

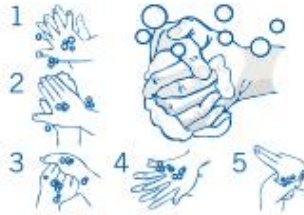
**1** **Wet hands**  
Mouiller les mains



**2** **Apply liquid soap**  
Prendre du savon



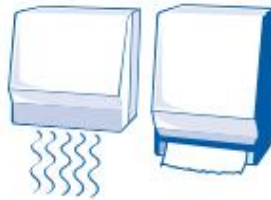
**3** **Lather** (minimum 15 seconds)  
Faire mousser  
(minimum de 15 secondes)



**4** **Rinse**  
Rincer



**5** **Paper towel dry or use an air dryer**  
Sécher les mains avec une serviette ou utiliser un séchoir à air



**6** **Turn taps off with paper towel**  
Fermer le robinet avec la serviette



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**York Region**