



Spread of Infection: Respiratory Hygiene

Children learn how easily harmful germs (microbes) spread through sneezing.

Early Years Framework links

Communication and language development

- Listening and attention
- Understanding
- Speaking

Physical development

- Health and self-care

Expressive arts and design

- Exploring and using media and materials

Key Words

Symptom, sneeze,
Vaccinations, Microbe

Weblink

[e-bug.eu/eng/EYS/lesson/
Respiratory-Hygiene](http://e-bug.eu/eng/EYS/lesson/Respiratory-Hygiene)

Learning Outcomes

Children will:

- Understand that sneezing into a tissue, or into your sleeve (not your hands), is the best way to stop the spread of colds and flu germs (microbes).
- Understand that there can be harmful germs in your sneezes that can spread over your hands.
- Understand the sequencing of hand washing and nose blowing.

Resources Required

Activity: Paint Sneezes *Per Child*

- ☐ Paper plate/sheet of paper
- ☐ Plastic/vinyl gloves
- ☐ Food colouring added to water
- ☐ Drinking straw

Extension Activity: Hand Washing and Nose Blowing Flashcards

- ☐ TS1 Hand Washing and Nose Blowing Flashcards

Extension Activity: Nose Blowing Writing Activity *Per Child*

- ☐ SW1 Nose Blowing Writing Activity

Advance preparation

1. You may wish to use the balloon hands from lesson 1 instead of paper plates for this main activity.
2. Create a cup of coloured water using a few drops of food colouring
3. You may wish to use different colours to indicate different germs.

Health and Safety

Children may require aprons.

Ensure that the food colouring is diluted (to avoid staining).

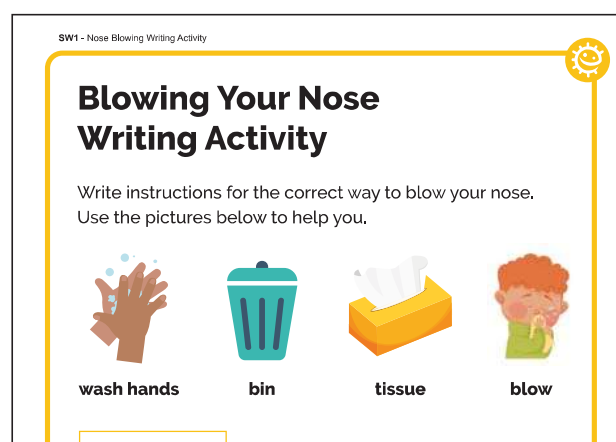
Students may need to wear safety goggles.

For safe microbiological practices in the classroom consult CLEAPPS www.cleapps.org.uk

Supporting materials



TS1 Hand washing and nose blowing flashcards



SW1 Nose blowing writing activity

Lesson Plan



Introduction

1. Begin by explaining to the children that they are going to learn how harmful microbes can be spread by sneezing and coughing.
2. Discuss that colds and flu are caused by harmful microbes (viruses). The viruses can be passed on to other people if we cough or sneeze on them or if we cough and sneeze on to our hands and then touch them.

Discussion

Discuss with children what happened. Ask them to look at the hand and notice that the microbes are still on it.

Microbes can still be passed from person to person through touch if we cover our coughs and sneezes with our hands. It is recommended that in the absence of a tissue we sneeze on our sleeve/elbow because we are less likely to transmit harmful microbes to other people by doing this.

Explain that sneezing in your hand can spread the microbes to things that we touch, so it is better to sneeze into the tissue (or our sleeve/elbow) and then throw it away and wash your hands as soon as possible.

Activity: Paint Sneezes

1 Use a pen to draw around your hand onto a paper plate or a sheet of paper



2 Add drops of coloured water to the drawn hand



3 Blow the water all over the drawn hand



4 What do you see?



1. Ask the group to use a pen to draw around their hand onto a paper plate or a sheet of paper.
2. Add a few drops of coloured water to each child's drawn hand.
3. Give each child a drinking straw and ask them to blow the germs all over their drawn hand just like they would blow germs out of their nose onto their hands.
4. Children may wish to decorate the germs or give them names.
5. Discuss with the children what would happen if we cover our mouth with a tissue or our sleeve instead of our hands when sneezing and how this would limit the spread of germs.

Children should notice that the coloured water spreads over their drawn hand more readily when they don't cover their mouth.

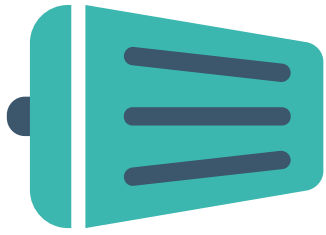
Extension Activities

Hand Washing and Nose Blowing Flashcards

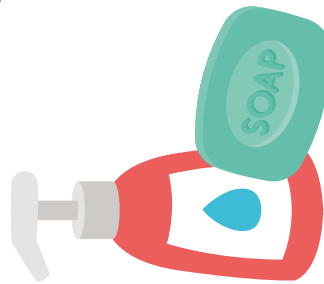
TS1 can be used to support learning. Print the sheet and cut out the flashcards, or display the sheet on a whiteboard. Ask children to name the image, the correct word is shown on the card

Nose Blowing Writing Activity

Provide each child with SW1. Ask children to use the picture prompts and words provided to fill in the blanks for the correct steps to take when blowing your nose.



Bin



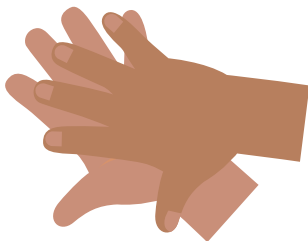
Soap



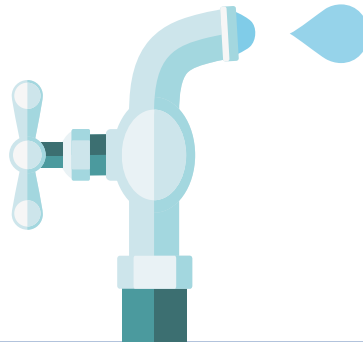
Tissue



Hand sanitiser



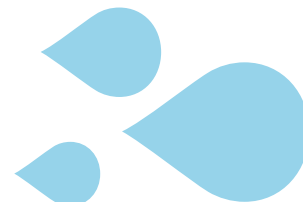
Hands



Tap



Sneeze



Water

