

## **Snot Gun Experiment:** Teacher Answer Sheet

## **Questions**

- 1 Which disk do you think will be most affected by the sneeze?

  The paper disks directly in front of and to the sides of the sneezer will be the most affected
- 2 Which people do you think will be least affected by the sneeze? The person behind the sneezer and those furthest away
- 3 What do you think will happen when you place a gloved hand over the sneeze?

  The sneeze will not travel to as many people but the microbes will be found on the hand
- 4 What do you think will happen when you place a tissue over the sneeze?

  All the microbes will be trapped in the tissue

## Results

1 What was the furthest distance the sneeze travelled?

	Distance travelled	Number of people contaminated
Sneeze alone	This will vary depending on the type of spray bottle used, but in general the sneeze alone will infect more people and travel the furthest. The sneeze in the tissue should affect the least.	
Gloved hand		
Tissue		

2. Did any of the sneezes contaminate any of the people on the side lines? If so, how many?

Sneeze alone	As above
Gloved hand	
Tissue	

3. How many 'microbes' landed on the person behind the sneezer?

## **Conclusions**

- 1 Based on this experiment what have you learnt about microbial transmission?

  Microbes can pass very easily from person to person through sneezing and touch.
- 2 If we don't wash our hands after sneezing into them, what might happen?
  We can still transfer the harmful microbes found in a sneeze to other people when we touch them
- 3 Which method is best for preventing the spread of infection, sneezing into your hand or sneezing into a tissue? Why?
  - Sneezing into a tissue; this causes the microbes to get trapped and we can then throw the tissue away

