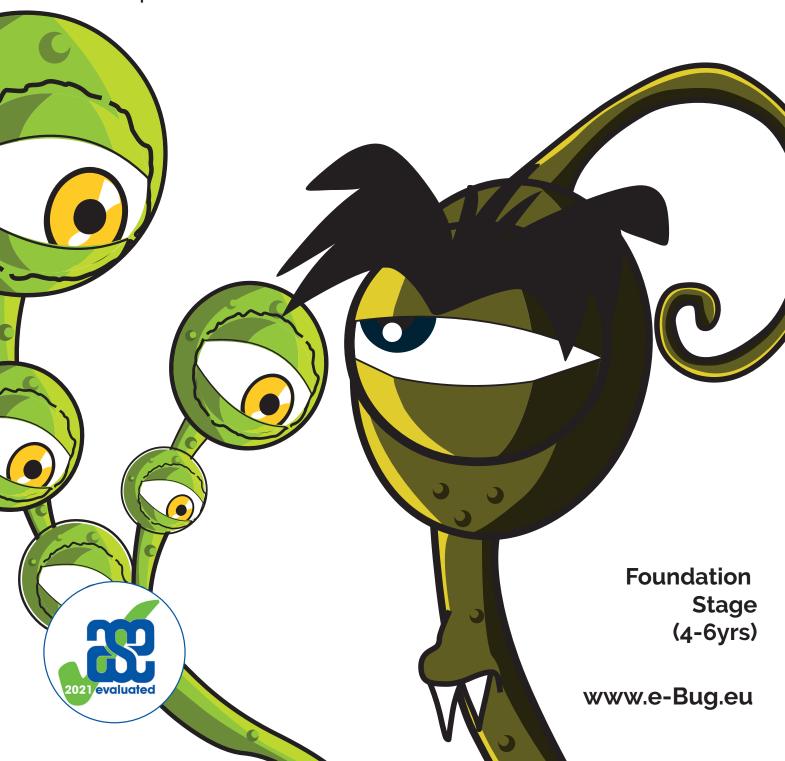
e-Bug: An international educational resource covering the world of microbes and disease.



Lesson plans, worksheets and activities



Welcome to e-Bug

e-Bug has been designed to bring the world of microbes and antibiotics to life for children in the school environment. It is a curriculum supplement series (Early Years, Key Stage 1, 2, 3 and 4) that complies with the Department for Education educational standards for junior and senior schools.

This resource has been created by the UK Health Security Agency (formerly Public Health England) in collaboration with 17 EU partner countries to foster an interest in science and to improve young people's knowledge and understanding about microbes, infection prevention and control, and prudent antibiotic use, thereby

empowering them to be proactive in looking after their own health. Lesson plans can be used in sequence or as individual activities designed to fit into 50-minute classroom slots. These tools can be used freely by educators and may be copied for classroom use but may not be sold.

Over 27 international countries are involved in the e-Bug project, and the resources have been evaluated with more than 3000 children in England, France and the Czech Republic. The e-Bug pack is supported by a website from which all the pack resources, videos, images and additional activities can be downloaded (www.e-bug.eu).

Each section of the pack contains detailed lesson plans, student worksheets and handouts some of which are available in MS PowerPoint format for whiteboard use:

- Creative inquiry based activities to promote active learning
- Highlighted learning outcomes which

deepen students' understanding of the importance of microbes, their spread, treatment and prevention

- Activities that encourage students to take more responsibility for their own health
- Activities that highlight the importance of responsible antibiotic use

We would like to thank everyone involved in the development of this resource which will help the next generation of adults to use antibiotics more wisely.

We would especially like to thank the teachers and students across the UK, and Europe who participated in focus groups and the evaluation process and helped ensure that these materials are not only fun and exciting but also effective.

We do hope you enjoy using e-Bug and will find this an invaluable addition to your classroom.

If you would like to keep up to date with our latest resources, or the research and development that we undertake please register for our quarterly newsletter via the e-Bug homepage: www.e-Bug.eu As educators, your feedback is invaluable to us. Your comments will help the e-Bug resource grow and evolve. Please send any comments, queries and suggestions to:

Primary Care and Interventions Unit UK Health Security Agency Twyver House, Bruton Way Gloucestershire GL1 1DQ Or alternatively visit the e-Bug website and contact us at www.e-bug.eu/contact-us

The e-Bug Team

An international educational resource covering the world of microbes and disease

e-Bug resources are available in the following languages

Basque Country - Basque, Spanish

Belgium - French

Bulgaria - Bulgarian

Cyprus - Cypriot

Czech Republic* - Czech

Denmark* - Danish

England* - English

France* - French

Germany* - German

Greece* - Greek

Hungary - Hungarian

Ireland - English, Gaelic

Italy* - Italian

Kosovo - Albanian

Latvia - Latvian

Lithuania - Lithuanian

Norway - Norwegian

Poland* - Polish

Portugal* - Portuguese

Romania - Romanian

Saudi Arabia - Arabic

Scotland - English, Gaelic

Spain* - Spanish

The Netherlands - Dutch

Turkey - Turkish

Ukraine - Ukrainian

Wales* - English, Welsh

Visit www.e-bug.eu to view our partner profiles and translated versions of the resources.





^{*}Original partner countries

The e-Bug Learning Journey

Key Stage 2

Ages: 8 to 11 years

Foundation Stage

Ages: 4 to 6 years

The e-Bug learning journey begins..

Children are introduced to microbes and positive behaviours for hand washing, respiratory and oral hygiene.

Oral health

Pupils learn about dental plaque and the impact of sugar on their teeth.

Marvellous Microbes

Pupils develop their hand and respiratory knowledge and explore different types of harmful and useful microbes.

Key Stage 1

Ages: 6 to 8 years

Micro-organisms

Spread of Infection

Discovery

Pupils are introduced to vaccines, antibiotics and the transmission of microbes from and to food and animals.



Empowered

Pupils increase their knowledge of antimicrobial resistance, understand how to communicate important scientific messages within the community and strengthen their self-care techniques.

Infection control

Pupils apply their problem-solving skills to outbreaks and are introduced to herd immunity and infectious diseases.

Sexual Health

Pupils learn how easily infection can spread through sexual contact and how to protect themselves.

Key Stage 3

Ages: 11 to 14 years

Key Stage 4

Ages: 14 to 16 years

Treatment of Infection

Contents

Foundation Stage

Spread of Infection

Lesson 1 -Hand Hygiene

By taking part in a classroom experiment children learn why it is important to wash hands properly, and learn the best method and order for hand washing.

Page 14

Spread of Infection

Lesson 2 – Respiratory Hygiene

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

Page 22

Prevention of Infection

Lesson 3 -Oral Hygiene

Children learn how to brush their teeth and understand that we brush our teeth at least twice per day to avoid tooth decay.

Page 28

e-Bug has been designed to bring the world of microbes and antibiotics to life for children in the school environment

Foundation Stage Northern Ireland Curriculum Links

Spread of Infection

Lesson 1 – Hand Hygiene

Curriculum Key Elements:

Personal health and moral

character

Curriculum Skills:

Thinking

Problem solving

Decision making

Curriculum Areas of

Learning:

Language and literacy

Personal development and

mutual understanding (PDMU)

The world around us (TWAU)

Spread of Infection

Lesson 2 – Respiratory Hygiene

Curriculum Key Elements:

Personal health and moral

character

Curriculum Skills:

Communication

Thinking

Problem solving

Decision making

Curriculum Areas of Learning:

Language and literacy

Personal development and

mutual understanding (PDMU)

The world around us (TWAU)

Prevention of Infection

Lesson 3 -Oral Hygiene

Curriculum Key Elements:

Personal health and moral

character

Curriculum Skills:

Communication

Thinking

Problem solving

Decision making

Curriculum Areas of Learning:

Language and literacy

Personal development and

mutual understanding (PDMU)

The world around us (TWAU)

e-Bug is a curriculum supplement series (Early Years, Key Stage 1, 2, 3 and 4) that complies with the Department for Education educational standards for junior and senior schools

Teacher Refresher Information

Optional background information for each of the pack topics has been included to help you plan your lessons and introduce the topic to students. Look for the Early Years or Key Stage 1 logo below.

Micro-organisms: Introduction to Microbes



KS1 Lesson 1

Micro-organisms, more commonly known as germs, bugs or microbes, are tiny living things too small to be seen with the naked eye. They are found almost everywhere on Earth. Some microbes are useful, and others can be harmful to humans. It is important to clarify that microbes are not innately useful or harmful. Rather that some microbes can be useful to humans whilst others can be harmful depending on the situation. For example, the mould *Aspergillus* is used to help make chocolate, however can cause harm to humans if inhaled into the lungs. Although extremely small, microbes come in many different shapes and sizes. The three groups of microbes covered in the resource are viruses, bacteria and fungi.

Viruses often cause illnesses like coughs and colds. Viruses need to live inside a living organism, such as plants and animals, to make more viruses.

Bacteria are single-celled organisms that can grow very quickly and can in some circumstances make substances (toxins) that are harmful to humans. Other bacteria are completely harmless to humans, and some are useful and help us make food like yoghurt and can be good for our health. Bacteria can be divided into three groups based on their shapes - cocci (balls), bacilli (rods) and spirals. Scientists and healthcare workers can use these shapes to identify which infection a patient has.

Fungi are the largest of the three microbes described, they get their food by either

decomposing (breaking down) dead plants and animals, or by growing on another living thing. Fungi can be harmful by causing infection or being poisonous to eat; others can be useful or harmless, some fungi like Penicillium help us make medicines.

Spread of Infection:

There are many ways our bodies can be exposed to infection and several things that we can do to help prevent this happening. In this teacher refresher section we only cover information for the activities contained in this resource.

Hand Hygiene



FS Lesson 1



Schools are a haven for potentially harmful microbes that can spread rapidly from child-to-child via touch. Our skin naturally secretes oil which helps to keep our skin moist and stops it getting too dry. This oil, however, is a perfect place for microbes to grow and multiply and helps microbes 'stick' to our skin. Although our hands are naturally covered in useful bacteria (also known as flora), our hands can easily pick up harmful microbes from our surroundings (e.g. home, school, garden, animals, pets, food), surfaces and even through the air. These harmful microbes can spread quickly and easily from child-to-child via touch and can make us poorly if swallowed. Washing your hands is one of the best ways to stop harmful microbes from spreading and prevent us from becoming sick.

Washing hands in water alone, even cold water, will eliminate visible dirt and grime. However, soap is required to break up the oil on the surface of the hands which trap microbes.

Hand sanitisers can be used where soap and water is not available. When possible, liquid soap should be used instead of bars of soap, especially if used by multiple people.

Hands should be washed:

- Before, during and after preparing food
- After using the bathroom
- After exposure to animals or animal waste
- After coughing, sneezing or blowing your nose
- If you're ill or have been around ill people
- After outdoor play

Hand sanitisers with ingredients like alcohol work by destroying microbes as they dry, but don't kill all types of harmful microbes and don't remove visible dirt or other substances from our skin. Therefore, hand sanitisers should not be generally used after using the toilet.

Respiratory Hygiene



FS Lesson 2



KS1 Lesson 3

Respiratory infections are infections that happen in the lungs, chest, sinuses, nose and throat, for example, coughs and colds, the flu and pneumonia. These infections can spread from person-to-person through the air, through person-to-person contact (touching hands, hugging, kissing) or by touching contaminated surfaces. The microbes can be spread by getting into the non-infected person's nose or eyes because they touch their face with contaminated hands.

The most common mode of spreading infection is through coughs and sneezes. Sneezing is a way in which our body tries to get rid of any harmful microbes and dust particles we might inhale. The harmful microbes and dust get caught on the nose hair and tickle our nose or might irritate the back of our throat or our lungs. The nose sends a message to the brain which then

sends a message back to your nose, mouth, lungs and chest telling them to blow the irritation away. In the case of colds and flu, millions of virus particles rush out and contaminate the surface on which they land; this could be our food or hands.

Colds and flu are the most common illnesses in childhood settings and perhaps among the most contagious. COVID-19 is the name of the disease caused by the virus SARS-CoV-2. and can be very contagious. As colds, flu and COVID-19 are caused by viruses, they cannot be cured by antibiotics. When we catch a cold or flu rest and drinking plenty of fluids are generally recommended however, if symptoms persist then a visit to the local doctor or pharmacist is required. Symptoms of colds and flu include headache, sore throat and fever. Colds can also cause runny noses. Many sore throats associated with colds and flu are due to the viruses in the throat making it inflamed and feeling raw. Breathing in through the mouth causes the throat to feel dry and continual coughing can aggravate sore throats and contribute to an aching feeling.

Teaching good respiratory hygiene from a young age, such as covering your coughs and sneezes or regularly washing your hands for 20 seconds, can help prevent the spread of these infections. This is especially important in the approach to the winter cold/flu season each year. It is a natural reflex to put our hands towards our faces when we sneeze, but it is important to replace this action with new habits of respiratory hygiene to reduce the spread of infection:

Cover your sneezes, dispose of tissues and regularly wash your hands.

 Catch it: cover your mouth and nose with a tissue. If you don't have a tissue, cover with your upper sleeve or elbow (not your hands).

- Bin it: throw away the used tissue at once to avoid spreading infection to surfaces, or other people.
- Kill it: wash your hands well with soap and water, or hand sanitiser if soap and water are not available, immediately after throwing the tissue in the bin.

We can help prevent the spread of these infections (like the flu and COVID-19) by getting vaccinations. Check government links on why a different flu vaccine is needed each year.

Learning about respiratory hygiene provides a chance to talk to students about vaccinations, a vaccination they may be familiar with is the annual flu vaccine.

Prevention of Infection: Oral Hygiene



FS Lesson 2



KS1 Lesson 3

Normally our first teeth come through our gums (erupt) at around 6 months of age and we will have a full set of 20 baby (primary) teeth by the time we are 2 ½ years old. At around 6 years old our first permanent molars erupt and the front primary teeth begin to get wobbly and fall out (exfoliate) and are replaced by the permanent (adult) teeth. On average by 12 years old we have lost all of the baby teeth and will have a full set of 28 teeth. By 17-21 years old our wisdom teeth will usually erupt, giving the full 32 permanent teeth, which if we look after, can last for the rest of our lives.

Bacteria can grow on teeth, clumping together to form a sticky substance called dental plaque. You will see this in your own mouth as a creamy line around your teeth or sometimes feel it as a furry layer with your tongue. If plaque is not brushed away regularly or there is a high frequency of sugar in the diet, the bacteria within the plaque can lead to tooth decay (caries).

When we eat sugary foods and drinks, bacteria in the plaque can use the sugars to make acid. Over time this can dissolve the outer surface of our teeth (the enamel). As more enamel is dissolved, a hole (cavity) appears. As the decay process continues, the bacteria can reach the nerve and cause toothache.

If no dental treatment is given, the tooth decay (caries) can spread and bacteria can penetrate the nerve, leading to inflammation of the bone and surrounding structures of the teeth which can result in an abscess (lump on the gum) that is filled with pus. This can make you very poorly and the tooth will usually need to be removed (extracted). Dental health is extremely important; in 2018/19, 31.59% of 5-year-old children in Northern Ireland had tooth decay, this is the main reason for children aged 5 to 9 being admitted to hospital. The good news is that tooth decay can be prevented by limiting the number of times we eat foods and drinks with added sugar, brushing twice a day with fluoride toothpaste and regularly seeing the dentist to check the health of our teeth and gums.

Fluoride in toothpaste can help strengthen our teeth and slow down the decay process. The most important time to brush teeth with fluoride toothpaste is before going to bed at night. After brushing, it is important to spit out the excess toothpaste but to not rinse directly after. To make it easy to remember it is best to add tooth brushing to a twice daily hygiene routine morning and night.

Healthy Eating

In the UK, 34% of primary school children are now overweight and children are now eating three times more sugar than they should. Half of the sugar children eat comes from unhealthy snacks and sugary drinks. Fruit and vegetables are still the healthiest snack choice.

Foundation Stage Lesson Plans

All lesson plans and supporting materials contained in this pack are available to download as modifiable templates from the e-Bug website





Spread of Infection: Hand Hygiene

By taking part in a classroom experiment children learn why it is important to wash hands properly and learn the best method and order for hand washing.

Northern Ireland **Curriculum Links**

Curriculum Key Elements

Personal health and moral character

Curriculum Skills

- Communication
- Thinking
- Problem solving
- Decision making

Curriculum Areas of Learning

- Language and literacy
- Personal development and mutual understanding (PDMU)
- The world around us (TWAU)



Soap, Hygiene, Infection

@ Weblink

www.e-Bug.eu/ey-hand-hygiene



Learning Intention

Children will:

 Develop an understanding of how personal hygiene practices, such as handwashing and nose blowing, help to prevent the spread of germs and maintain health

Resources Required

Main Activity: Balloon Hands Per child

Disposable plastic/vinyl gloves Per group or class

Basin

Water

Hand soap

Washable black marker

Extension Activity: Hand Washing and Nose Blowing Flashcards

TS1 Hand Washing and Nose Blowing Flashcards

> **Extension Activity: Picture Sequencing Activity** Per child

SW1 Picture Sequencing Activity

Glue sticks & paper or card

Extension Activity: Hand Washing Chart Per child

SW2 e-Bug Healthy Hands Hand **Washing Progress Chart**

- 1. Fill a basin with soapy water
- 2. Inflate vinyl gloves with air and tie at the bottom to create hand balloons
- 3. Draw circles and dots on the balloon hands with washable marker to resemble germs

(C) Health and Safety

Ensure that children have no soap allergies or sensitive skin conditions

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

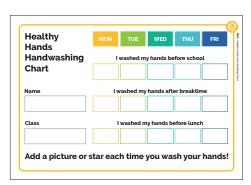
Supporting Materials



TS1 Hand Washing and Nose Blowing Flashcards



SW1 Picture Sequencing Activity -Place hand washing in the correct order



SW2 e-Bug Healthy Hands **Hand Washing Progress Chart**

Lesson Plan



Introduction

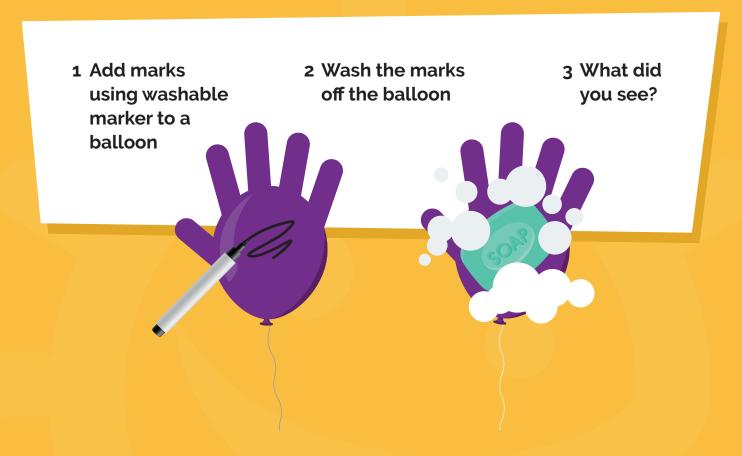
When introducing children to the concept of germs, you can refer to the teacher refresher section for more information.

- Begin the lesson by asking how many children have washed their hands today? Ask them why they washed their hands (to wash away any dirt or germs microbes that might be on their hands) and what would happen if they didn't wash their hands (they might get ill as they ingest harmful germs on their hands).
- 2. Talk to the children about how we use our hands all the time, and that they pick up millions of germs every day. Although many of these are harmless, some could be harmful. Explain that we spread our germs to our friends and others through touch, and this is why we wash our hands.
- Describe key times we should be washing our hands (especially after using the toilet and before eating).
- 4. Explain to the children that they are going to do an activity to demonstrate how germs are all over our hands and how best to wash them off.

Discussion

Discuss with the children where the germs on the balloon hands may have come from. Emphasise to children that not all the germs on their hands are harmful; there may also be useful germs there too.

Emphasise to the children that we also need to wash our hands properly. Highlight that germs like to hide in between fingers and under the nails. it is important to know both WHEN and HOW to wash our hands properly to prevent spreading germs and potentially infection. When you must sneeze and you can't wash your hands, a solution may be to sneeze or cough onto your sleeve/elbow.



- 1. Demonstrate how to wash the marker off the balloon hands with soapy water.
- 2. Provide each child with a balloon hand covered in germs (washable marker).
- 3. The children should take turns thoroughly scrubbing the marker off the balloon hands in the basin of soapy water.
- 4. Have a conversation with the children about what they saw. How long did it take for all the germs to disappear?
 Why do you think it's important to wash our hands? If we didn't use soap would it have worked?

Children should notice that it is much easier to wash off the marker pen with soapy water.

Now visit www.e-Bug.eu/ey-handhygiene to find a NHS demonstration and the UKHSA hand washing song to help make the correct technique more memorable for little hands



Hand Washing and Nose Blowing Flashcards

TS1 is a useful way to support learning.
Cards can be cut and laminated for
future use or displayed on a whiteboard.
Ask children to name the image, the
correct word is shown on the card.

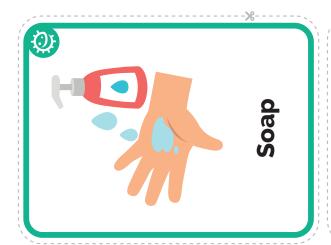
Picture Sequencing Activity

Provide SW1 to a child or group. Supply paper, card and glue sticks and ask children to sort the cards into the correct order and stick them onto the paper or card with glue.

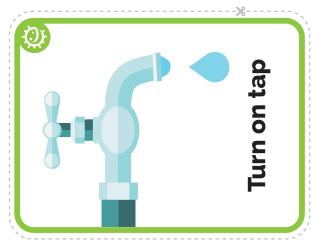
Hand Washing Chart

SW2 is a useful way to encourage routine hand washing. Provide one sheet per child. Ask children to mark or draw a picture every time they wash their hands to keep track of how often they have washed their hands during one schoolweek. This can be completed in the classroom or at home.

TS1 - Hand Washing and Nose Blowing Flashcards Soap Bin Hand sanitiser Hands Sneeze













Ą	>		
K	8	"	
ď	×	≺	7

Deattny	Z O X	TOE	WED	THO	IZ I
nands Handwashing	-	washed m	y hands be	washed my hands before school	_
Chart					
Name	2	washed my	hands aft	washed my hands after breaktime	O
Class	_	washed m	y hands be	washed my hands before lunch	
Add a picture or s	star eac	time	you wa	star each time you wash your hands!	hands!



Spread of Infection: Respiratory Hygiene

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

Northern Ireland **Curriculum Links**

Curriculum Key Elements

· Personal health and moral character

Curriculum Skills

- Communication
- Thinking
- Problem solving
- Decision making

Curriculum Areas of Learning

- Language and literacy
- Personal development and mutual understanding (PDMU)
- The world around us (TWAU)

Key Words

Symptom, sneeze, Vaccinations, Germ

@ Weblink

www.e-Bug.eu/ey-respiratory-hygiene



🄽 Learning Intention

Children will:

 Understand how proper hygiene practices, such as sneezing into a tissue or sleeve and washing hands after nose blowing, help to reduce the spread of harmful germs and keep us healthy

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

- 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).

Children 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 bad germs can be spread by sneezing and coughing, and that this makes us ill.
- Discuss that colds and flu are caused by bad germs (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 germs 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 our sleeve/elbow because we are less likely to transmit harmful germs to other people by doing this.

Explain that sneezing in your hand can spread the germs 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.

- 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?



- 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.



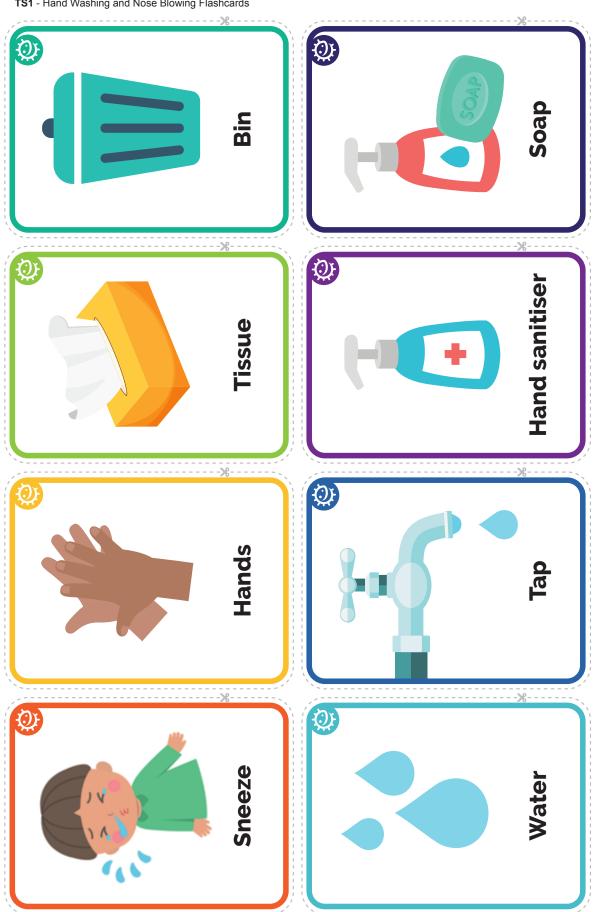
Hand Washing and Nose Blowing Flashcards

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

Use an enlarged copy of the SW1 to complete a shared writing activity about the correct steps to take when blowing your nose.

TS1 - Hand Washing and Nose Blowing Flashcards





Blowing Your Nose Writing Activity

Write instructions for the correct way to blow your nose. Use the pictures below to help you.









wash hands

bin

tissue

blow

Step 1

Step 2

Step 3

Step 4





Prevention of Infection: Oral Hygiene

Children learn how to brush their teeth and understand that we brush our teeth at least twice per day to avoid tooth decay.

Northern Ireland **Curriculum Links**

Curriculum Key Elements

Personal health and moral character

Curriculum Skills

- Communication
- Thinking
- Problem solving
- Decision making

Curriculum Areas of Learning

- Language and literacy
- Personal development and mutual understanding (PDMU)
- The world around us (TWAU)

Key Words

Bacteria, Germs, Microbes, Plaque, Cavity, Sugar, Tooth brushing.

@ Weblink

www.e-Bug.eu/ey-oral-hygiene



🍒 Learning Intention

Children will:

 Understand how to take care of their teeth by brushing properly, why keeping teeth healthy is important, and how eating too much sugar can cause tooth decay.

Resources Required

Introduction Per class

SH1 Picture of teeth

Activity: Mirror Exercise and Teeth Brushing Mime Per class

Soft toy / puppet or mouth model with an opening mouth and teeth

Toothbrush

Mirror

A timer / 2-minute egg timer

If possible, ask children to bring a toothbrush to the session

> **Activity: Mirror Exercise and Teeth Brushing Mime** Per child

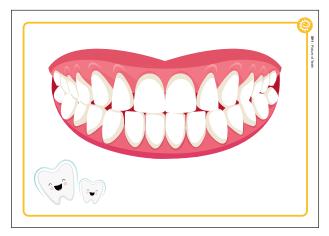
SW1 Teeth Brushing Chart

(E) Health and Safety

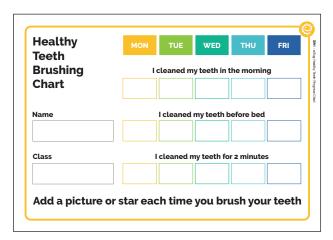
Younger children must be supervised when brushing their own teeth at all times.

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

鮨 Supporting materials



SH1 Picture of Teeth



SW1 Teeth Brushing Chart

Lesson Plan



Introduction

- 1. Ask the children to use a mirror to look in their mouth. What can they see? How many teeth can they see? What do they look like? Explain to the children that most of their teeth are baby teeth, but some children's teeth may have started to fall out, these are replaced by bigger adult teeth that they will have for the rest of their lives.
- 2. Show the class SH1: a picture of 28 adult teeth (excluding four wisdom teeth). Adults have a total of 32 teeth. Ask the children to help count the number of teeth they see in the picture. Then ask the children to count how many teeth they have (children under 6 generally have 20 baby teeth). Ask the children how many top teeth they have and how many bottom teeth they have.
- 3. Ask the children what we use our teeth for (eating, speaking, smiling). Explain that it is very important to look after our teeth by keeping them clean. Having too many sugary foods and drinks too often is bad for our teeth and could cause holes in our teeth, called cavities. A cavity can hurt and make it painful to eat. Brushing your teeth helps prevent cavities.
- 4. Explain to the children that to keep our teeth healthy we must brush them twice every day; last thing at night and at least one other time during the day, it's easy to remember if you do it before school and before bed. Excess toothpaste should be spat out and there is no need to rinse our mouths directly after. Tell the children that we should brush our teeth for two minutes each time, using a fluoride toothpaste and be supervised/get help from an adult.

1 Open your toy or puppet's mouth



2 Brush your toy or puppet's teeth in circles



- 1. Bring out either a soft toy or puppet with an open mouth and teeth and explain to the children that they are going to brush the puppets teeth.
- 2. Using the puppet and a toothbrush, show the children how to brush their teeth, demonstrating the action of moving the toothbrush in small circles on the front and the back of the teeth, and all the way back to the molars.
- 3. If you have extra puppets and toothbrushes let the child try this themselves along with a two-minute timer. If only one puppet/brush is available you can share the puppet and toothbrush among the group, and have each child pass it on after 15 30 seconds.
- 4. If children have brought their own toothbrushes and toothpaste to school, supervise the children brushing their own teeth. Make sure that toothbrushes are stored separately to prevent contamination between brushes.

This fun activity will help children learn to brush their teeth effectively.



Teeth Brushing Chart

SW2 is a useful way to encourage routine tooth brushing. Provide one sheet per child. Ask children to mark or draw a picture every time they brush their teeth to keep track of how often they have brushed their teeth during one school week. This can be completed in the classroom or at home.

Discussion

Tell the children we brush our teeth to remove bad germs (microbes) that live in our mouths and like to eat the sugar on our teeth. When this happens and we don't brush our teeth enough we can get holes in our teeth which get worse over time and cause toothache or worse and can make you feel unwell.

Ask the children if they can remember the most important steps to keep our teeth clean:

- 1. Brush twice a day before school and just before bed.
- 2. Using a fluoride toothpaste.
- 3. Brush the front surfaces, the inside surfaces and biting surfaces of every tooth. 4. Brush for two minutes.
- 5. Spit out the toothpaste at the end, do not rinse.

NON	Brushing Chart	
TUE	I cleaned my teeth in the morning	
WED	y teeth in t	
THO	the mornin	
A A	5	

I cleaned my teeth before bed

Name

cleaned my teeth for 2 minutes
_

Add a picture or star each time you brush your teeth