CONTROLLING INFECTION ON FARMS

ACTIVITY IDEAS

INTRODUCTION

The main aim of this pack is the teaching of an effective technique for hand washing while being present on a farm visit. However other issues, such as segregation of lunchboxes from the farm area for example, are also covered.

WHY TEACH HAND WASHING?

Research has shown that proper hand washing prevents the transmission of disease forming bacteria. As children of primary school age are particularly at risk from the contracting and transmitting infections such as E.coli and Cryptosporidium effective hand washing needs to be taught from an early age and re-enforced regularly.

As children have a limited understanding of hygiene practices, a high degree of close contact with each other and sometimes share food with each other, hand washing alone will not ensure a child will not pick up an infection.

ACTIVITIES

The following are a selection of activities that are aimed at helping to teach effective hand washing methods and give ideas of other steps that everyone can take to minimise the chance of an infection.

ACTIVITIES

The activities listed here have been adapted from the Stockport Metropolitan Borough Council publication ‘Hands Up for Hygiene’ and the Welsh HSE publication ‘Hygiene on Open Farms.’ Further ideas have been adapted from a variety of sources including the University of Nebraska, Lincoln.

Other supporting activities may well be considered or developed to work in conjunction or instead of activities of this document. The important aspect of this is that the pupil is taught **why-when-how**;

Why – why it is important to prevent disease by hand washing

When – when it is the correct time to wash hands

How – how to correctly wash their hands.

ACTIVITY ONE (A)

Hand Washing With Youngsters

Age Group:
Reception to Year 2

Learning objective:
- to explain the reasons for hand washing
- to allow pupils to learn when and how to wash their hands

Resources:
Handwashing sheet/poster

Learning activity:
i) discuss with children when we wash our hands (after going to the toilet, before eating food, when they are dirty, etc.) and briefly why (germs make us ill).

ii) discuss what items they will need to wash their hands (soap, warm water, towel)

iii) demonstrate how you wash your hands using hand washing poster to help you. Do all this to the following song (to the tune of 'Row, row, row your boat);

Wash, wash, wash your hands,
Play our handy game,
Rub and scrub, scrub and rub,
Germs go down the drain, hey!

Repeat

ACTIVITY ONE (B)

Hand Washing With Youngsters

Age Group:
Year 3 to Year 6

Learning objective:
- to explain the reasons for hand washing
- to allow pupils to learn when and how to wash their hands

Resources:
Handwashing sheet/poster

Examples of microbes sheet

Learning activity:
i) briefly discuss with children when we wash our hands and why (more details about bacteria can be given – Information Sheet 2).

ii) discuss what items they will need to wash their hands (soap, warm water, towel)

iii) demonstrate how you wash your hands using hand washing poster to help you (Information Sheet 1).

iv) allow each pupil to demonstrate hand washing technique in class in 'private' over next few days

ACTIVITY TWO

Hand Washing Story Book

Age Group:
Reception to Year 2

Learning objective:
- to gain understanding of hand washing from oracy activities

Learning activity:
i) read a hand washing story book to class

ii) discuss importance of link between hand washing and germs to illnesses.

iii) share experiences of being ill and how they felt about it.

Hand Washing Books

Little Princess – I don't want to wash my hands – Tony Ross
HarperCollins (2003) ISBN 0007150725

Germs Make Me Sick – Melvin Berger Scott Foresman (1995) ISBN 0064451542

Oh, The Things You Can Do That Are Good For You – Tish Rabe
Random House Books (2001) ISBN 0375810986

Wash Your Hands! (Robin Hill School) – Margaret McNamara

Why Must I Wash My Hands? – Jackie Gaff Cherry Tree Books (2004) ISBN 1842342592

ACTIVITY THREE

Germs Word Search

Age Group:
Reception to Year 6

Learning objective:
- to recognise familiar words on topic of hand washing
- to re-enforce when, why and how of hand washing

Resources:
Word search sheet

Learning activity:
i) read out paragraph from word search, and then explain to pupils how a word search works and the words to look for.

ii) review at end to see if everyone has found the words

ACTIVITY FOUR

Art Work

Age Group:
Reception to Year 6

Learning objective:

- to re-enforce when, why and how of hand washing
- to produce art work to help with the understanding of the topic

Resources:
“Microbe characters” sheet (Early Years)

“Examples of microbes” sheet (Juniors)

Learning activity:-

Early Years

i) use Microbes characters sheet for ideas to help pupils make pictures, models, etc of microbes

ii) design a poster to tell people to wash their hands

Juniors

i) Design a poster with a hand washing message

ii) Use the Examples of Microbes sheet and ask pupils to make similar 3D models

ACTIVITY FIVE

Preparation for Farm Visit

Age Group:
Reception to Year 6

Learning objective:

- to identify the “do’s and don’ts” for a visit to a farm

Learning activity:
i) explanation of trip to farm (why you are going, etc.)

ii) recap hygiene information and relate to experiences that could be had on farm (wash hands after touching animals, only eat in certain areas, only eat your food and no other food lying around, etc.)

iii) discuss what you will and won’t do on the farm

iv) list rules on the board and have pupils produce drawings to help remember them.

Resources:
Hand washing video / DVD

HSE Information Sheer AIS23 Supplement (revised)

ACTIVITY SIX

Sink Those Germs

Age Group:
Reception to Year 6

Learning objective:
- to discover six reasons for washing hands

Learning activity:
i) place 6 bean bags onto a sheet that is marked with the 6 reasons to wash hands

ii) talk about handwashing and when a pupil identifies a reason for washing hands, they collect the appropriate bean bag and throw it into a container

Resources:
“Six reasons to wash hands” sheet

Container labelled Sink Those Germs

ACTIVITY SEVEN

Glitter Germs

Age Group:
Reception to Year 6

Learning objective:

- to demonstrate how germs are easily spread
- to demonstrate the importance of correct handwashing

Learning activity:
Glitter works well to represent how germs are spread from one person to the next because it sticks to the hands.

i) Allow each child to rub in a small amount of hand lotion and sprinkle a generous amount of glitter on the hands using a container to catch the excess. Use different colours of glitter to represent different types of germs.

ii) Allow the children to mingle and shake hands with each other for a few minutes. Discuss why they now have several different colours of glitter on their hands.

iii) Divide the class into three groups. Give paper towels to group one to try and wipe away the glitter germs. Ask group two to use cold water without soap to wash off the glitter germs. Provide group three with warm water and soap to wash their hands. Discuss which method was most effective in removing the glitter germs.

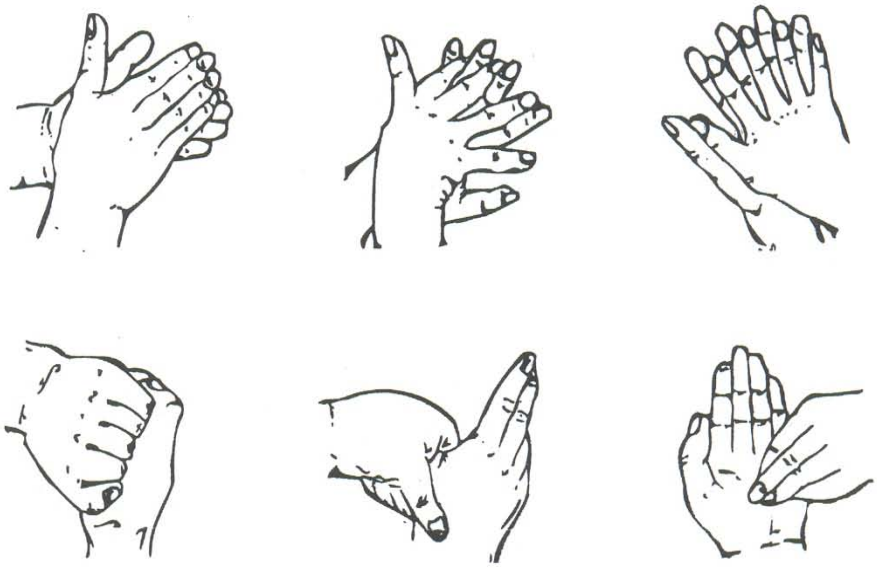
Resources:

Hand lotion
Glitter
Containers

INFORMATION SHEET 1

How to wash hands correctly

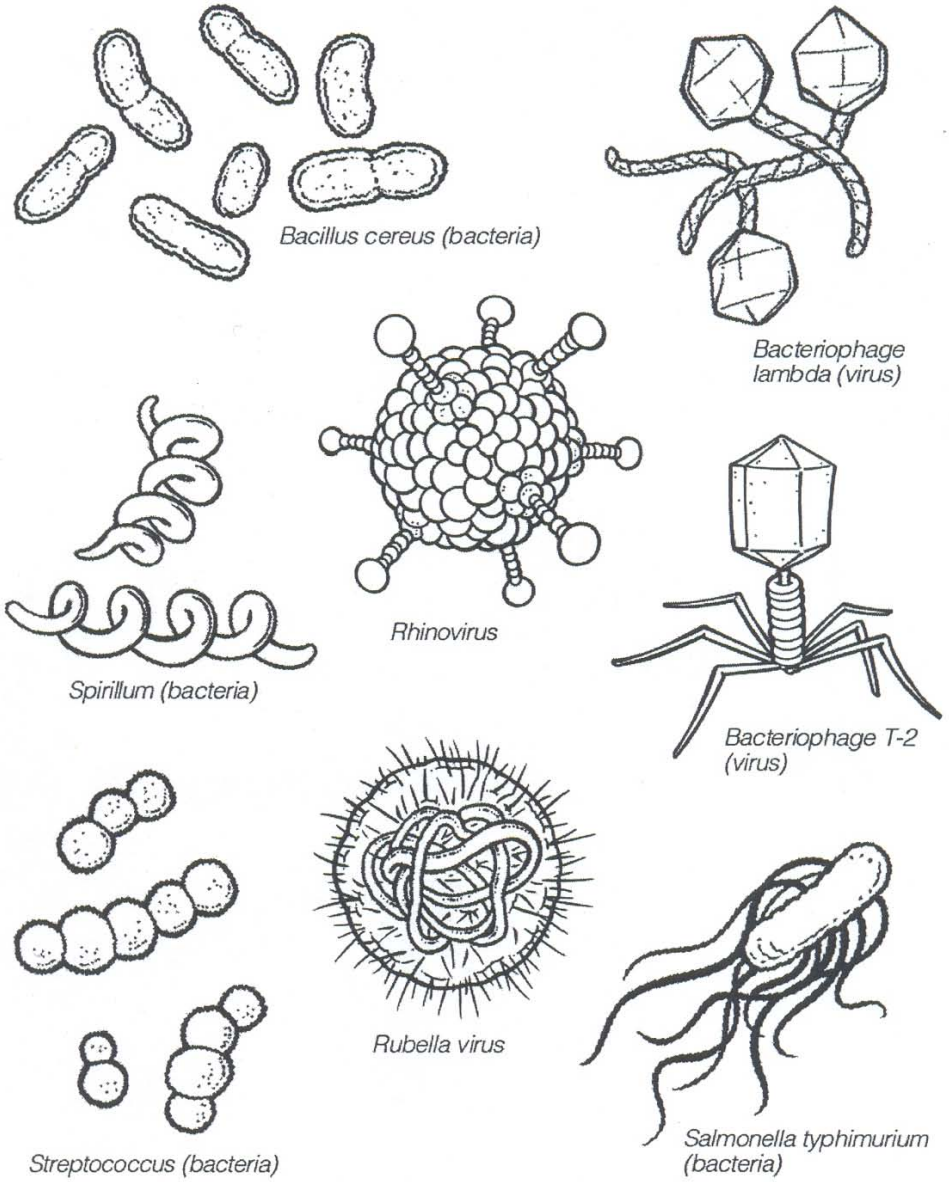
- Wet both hands
- Apply soap (liquid or bar)
- Rub hands together for at least 15 seconds and work up a good lather. Be sure to wash all surfaces -palms, backs and in between fingers



- Rinse hands well under a stream of warm water
- Dry hands with a paper towel, clean towel or under a hot air dryer
- Dispose of paper towel in bin

INFORMATION SHEET 2

Microbes



INFORMATION SHEET 3

Wordsearch

W	A	T	E	R	G	L	P	M	L	E	K	S	I
S	W	P	F	O	O	D	H	K	R	S	T	S	J
T	D	S	L	A	P	D	R	F	F	R	O	E	U
O	L	T	S	G	E	R	M	S	W	Q	Y	A	U
I	H	F	J	E	Y	I	S	T	V	X	N	W	P
L	D	S	Z	P	L	A	Y	L	R	K	S	Q	S
E	X	G	I	K	S	D	E	M	U	N	Y	R	L
T	M	R	W	C	Q	L	L	S	M	I	Z	T	E
B	C	F	H	A	N	D	S	V	B	S	S	A	W
D	S	O	X	H	S	E	Y	F	O	A	J	L	O
O	T	L	D	I	R	H	Y	A	K	G	V	L	T

INFORMATION SHEET 4

Microbe characters

Consider using pasta shapes, paints and other art materials to create pictures or models of germ characters like the ones below.

INFORMATION SHEET 5

Wash Your Hands

1. After touching animals

2. After being where animals live

3. After changing boots or shoes

4. Before eating food

5. Before putting your fingers in your mouth

6. After going to the toilet