



Make sure this activity has adult supervision

## ACTIVITY 7: HOW GERMS SPREAD

### Resources

Watch this video to see what you need, and the experiment in action:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mB-loucR4g0>

### Method

- 1 Place some baby oil on the childrens' hands and ask them to rub it in
- 2 Sprinkle some eco-friendly glitter onto their hands (this represents germs)
- 3 Ask the children to shake hands with one another and then ask the children what happens to the glitter (the germs)
- 4 Ask the children to wash their hands in warm water, with no soap. Did the glitter go away?
- 5 Ask the children to wash their hands again, this time for 5 seconds and with soap and water. Did the glitter go away this time?
- 6 Finally, ask the children to wash their hands with soap and water for 15 seconds. Encourage the children to sing happy birthday (reminding them that this takes approximately 15 seconds). Did the germs go away?
- 7 Once all of the children have clean, glitter-free hands, ask them how long they thought was best for hand washing and why this is important.

### The Science Bit

In order to effectively get rid of germs, it is important to thoroughly wash your hands for at least 20 seconds with warm water and soap. Soap doesn't actually kill germs but contains important chemicals, that when combined with physically moving your hands, helps to dislodge the germs from your hands and flush them down the sink.



The Bumbles of Honeywood is a set of books, activities, and merchandise to introduce children to important life skills such as entrepreneurial skills, creativity, teamwork, determination and self-confidence.  
[www.thebumblesofhoneywood.co.uk](http://www.thebumblesofhoneywood.co.uk)



## Learning Outcomes

- 1 Learners will appreciate how easily germs can be spread;
- 2 Learners will develop a good understanding of proper handwashing technique;
- 3 Learners will understand that it is essential to not just use soap, but to physically move hands during washing, in order to dislodge germs.



Please leave some feedback about how you, and the children in your class, found the activity:

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Evaluation



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