



Ideas to Incorporate *Stop the Spread* Messages into Daily School Activities

While curriculum is set for each grade level, the following are some ways to incorporate awareness of infection control into existing activities. Many of the ideas are applicable to both elementary and secondary school settings.

Science

- Assignment or project related to hand washing, infection control practices
- Pass a ball of yarn from one student to another to demonstrate how germs are passed around
- Class create PowerPoint presentation on how viruses and bacteria spread in a school setting. Make available to each classroom or play at school assembly.
- *Glo Germ* hand washing demonstration. **Glo Germ™** is an effective tool to demonstrate handwashing, surface cleaning, hygiene, and containment techniques. It shows where the person has missed washing. Can be ordered at www.glogerm.com
- Science class swabs commonly touched areas in school and grow in petrie dishes to watch the growth of virus/bacteria. Share results with school.

Drama

- Create skits or videos (in-class or You Tube) about hand washing or infection control practices. Present at school assembly.

Music

- Write a song about hand washing – assign different music styles to small groups (pop, country, rap)

English

- Write a paragraph or poem about hand washing
- Create Jeopardy game—questions related to hand washing and infection control. Play the game in other classrooms with the students who created it taking turns as Alex Trebek.
- Create a Quiz for different grade levels about hand washing and general infection control information
- Linguistics – research where the naming of viruses comes from (e.g. H1N1)
- Have an essay contest about the impact of a pandemic, or about literary references to historical pandemics

Art

- Incorporate hand washing messages into art projects such as posters for school halls and bathrooms
- Have students create a 'find Waldo' drawing where Waldo is a germ. Photocopy and distribute to younger grades, make available as activity for rainy days.
- Make arm bands for younger grades with 'bug' picture at the inside elbow for younger children to wear to get in the habit of coughing and sneezing into the 'bug'
- Have students create a photo collage from magazines, or take photos themselves of what health means to them
- Create mouse pads for the computer labs with infection control messages



History

- Research previous pandemics

Geography

- Plot on world map the ongoing spread of this current H1N1 virus around the world
- Plot previous pandemics on world map

Math

- Statistics: work out various scenarios of probability of exposure to virus/bacteria – colds and influenza

Physical Education

- Include warm up exercises that have infection control theme (e.g. throwing the ball between students to show how easily and infection can spread)

Computer lab

- Use drawing programs to create visuals of germs, or ways infection spreads

Other:

- Secondary school marketing class: design a marketing plan with stop the spread of infection key message to target elementary and secondary schools.

Contests

School/Parent Councils could be approached to donate money for appropriate prizes for classroom or school wide contests.

- **Poster contest**—use posters created in Art class, post these throughout school to promote the message in classrooms, hallways, back of stall doors, etc. Winners perhaps get their poster highlighted in the school newsletter, at the prime viewing spot in the school etc.
- **Handwashing challenge**—prize for class that does the most handwashing in a day

Other ideas

- Computer screen messaging re: hand washing (offer Stop the Spread graphic to school IT)
- Celebrate Infection Control Awareness Week (October 19 – 23, 2009) by making daily school announcements, looking at related websites
- Classroom Job List
 - Assign student to ink stamp hand of each student in class before handwashing and check after handwashing to ensure stamp has been washed off. Come up with fun name for the job.
 - Assign student to squirt hand sanitizer for each student in class before eating, after recess etc. Come up with a fun name for the job: 'Little Squirt of the Day' or use a superhero name (one class calls the student 'Sanitation Man')
 - Assign student to be responsible for watching soap dispenser levels
- Rainy Day Activities
 - online infection control games (see website resources)
- Assemblies
 - present skits or videos created in drama classes
 - have a *Glo Germ* demonstration to show the spread of germs
- Younger Grades:
 - Classrooms create a 'sneeze into your sleeve' song similar to clean up songs that younger children use.
 - Each student has a calendar and places stars on each day each time they wash their hands.
- Announcements—read poems created in English class
- Assign 3-5 students to become *Glo Germ* demonstrators for the school.
- Touch the Face Game – have students keep count of how many times they touch their face in a short period of time (i.e. during one academic period). Have discussion on how touching your face spreads germs. A teacher could make it a game – have students count how many times the teacher touches his/her face!



Some Website Resources

Latest updates, posters, general information on H1N1 Flu Virus
www.huroncounty.ca/health

Bug Out! Get the Facts on Germs is intended for children ages 4 to 13 and their parents, caregivers and educators. The program consists of a series of activities and includes activity booklets and corresponding facilitator's guides.

www.redcross.ca/bugout

K-2 level interactive games, activity sheets, information
www.dobugsneeddrugs.org

Glo Germ information and ordering
www.glogerm.com

