



Why wash hands?

LESSON
PLAN

STICKERS

CALENDAR

EXPERIMENTS

VIDEOS

STIMULUS
PRESENTATION

POSTERS



These materials have been created by one of the world's largest providers of handwashing behaviour change programmes, **Lifebuoy**, who have worked with NGOs and governments to reach over 1 billion people.

What is in this resource?



Digital download pack

- Lesson plan
- Stimulus Powerpoint presentation
- Activity & experiment sheets
- 21 day calendar
- Posters
- Certificates

Resources to share with families:

- Leaflet for parents & guardians
- Poster for homes
- Digital comics

Links to video channel

- Crikey It's Cross-Contamination
- Glow Away Germs
- The Blindfolded Gel Challenge
- The Handwash Song
- Soap n Pepper

Postal packs

- Posters for washrooms & classrooms (wipeable)
- Washroom & Hygiene Hotspots stickers
- Reward stickers



Learning objectives



Good health gives

- better **attendance** at school
- better **concentration** in class
- better chance to **learn**

The key to good health, is good hygiene and it all starts with handwashing.
This resource aims to support you to deliver these learning objectives:

- Understand what microbes are, that some are good and some are bad
- Understand the risk factors that cause preventable infections
- Understand that visibly clean is not really clean
- Know how and when to wash hands with soap or use sanitiser
- Take responsibility for my actions to myself and others
- Build healthy hygiene habits that last a lifetime



Supports United Nations Sustainable Development Goals #3 and #4

Even before Covid-19 reached the UK, there was a need to support schools in the delivery of education on personal health and hygiene:

MILLIONS OF SCHOOL DAYS ARE LOST FROM AVOIDABLE ILLNESS

England: 31.3 million

Source: Department For Education, 2018-19

Scotland: 4.1 million

Source: Scottish Government, 2018-19

Wales: 2.1 million

Source: Llywodraeth Cymru / Welsh Government, 2018-19

Northern Ireland: 2.2 million

Source: Department Of Education, Northern Ireland, 2017-18

600,000 – 1,000,000 people in the UK catch norovirus (vomiting bug) every year

Source: NHS

Threadworms are parasites in faeces that spread easily. 40% of young children in the UK could have had an infestation at some time. Handwashing prevents re-infestation.

Source: www.gponline.com/basics-management-threadworms/gi-tract/article/1073433

Only 72% of teachers in England stated they have soap and warm water available to all pupils for hand-washing

Source: Teacher Tapp, Mar 2020, base: 6,046 teachers

Handwashing and sanitising with ANY brand of soap and sanitiser helps us stay one step ahead of infections



In Spain, school children who washed their hands, complementing this with the use of hand sanitiser, had a 36% lower risk of school absenteeism due to acute gastroenteritis ⁽¹⁾

School-aged children who washed their hands more than 5 times a day were 53% less likely to contract influenza infection ⁽²⁾

Lesson Plan: Why wash hands?

Overall objective: help students understand that there are good & bad germs, why we need to wash our hands & how to do this effectively

TOPIC	LEARNER OUTCOMES	RESOURCES	TIME
Why keep clean?	Understand what germs are	Paper & pencils Flour experiment sheet Slides 4-14	13 min
Hand - washing	Understand that visibly clean may not be really clean. Learn that a quick wash misses important parts like thumbs. Practice how to wash hands thoroughly	Glowgerm gel/powder & UV light OR turmeric powder Water, soap, paper towel 'How should we wash our hands?' charts, video, pledge, song Slide 15-19	20 min
What does soap do?	See how soap pushes away germs	Water, pepper, soap, paper towel Experiment observation sheet Slide 20	20 min
Quiz	Ensure that learnings are embedded	'Quiz' chart Slides 24-25	5 min
21 day challenge	Good hygiene practices are embedded / behaviour change encouraged through 21 day practice	21 day calendar Certificate Lifebuoy education Youtube channel Slides 26-27	2 min

Total: 60 min

(1) Azor-Martínez E, Cobos-Carrascosa E, Gimenez-Sanchez F, Martínez-López JM, Garrido-Fernández P, Santisteban-Martínez J, Seijas-Vazquez ML, Campos-Fernandez MA, Bonillo-Perales A. Effectiveness of a multi-factorial handwashing program to reduce school absenteeism due to acute gastroenteritis. *Pediatr Infect Dis J*. 2014 Feb; 33(2):e34-9.

(2) Torner, N., N. Soldevila, et al. Effectiveness of non-pharmaceutical measures in preventing pediatric influenza: a case-control study. *BMC Public Health* 2015 15: 543.

Curriculum links – Why Wash Hands?



England

- **The National Curriculum in England Framework document December 2014**
- **KS1:** describe the importance for humans of exercise, eating the right amounts of different types of food, and hygiene (pg.176)
- **Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education Statutory guidance for governing bodies, proprietors, head teachers, principals, senior leadership teams, teachers 2019**
- **Primary School: Health and prevention:** pupils should know about personal hygiene and germs including bacteria, viruses, how they are spread and treated, and the importance of handwashing (pg.34)

Wales

- **Curriculum for Wales: area of learning and experience: health and well-being 2019**
- **Foundation:** I am beginning to make connections between my diet and my physical health and well-being. (pg.4)
- **Curriculum for Wales: area of learning and experience: science and technology 2019**
- **Foundation:** I can explore the environment, make observations and communicate my ideas. (pg.4)

Scotland

- **Curriculum for Excellence: health and wellbeing (experiences and outcomes) 2016**
- **P1-P3:** I am developing my understanding of the human body and can use this knowledge to maintain and improve my wellbeing and health. I am learning to assess and manage risk, to protect myself and others, and to reduce the potential for harm when possible (HWB 0-15a / HWB 1-15a / HWB 2-15a / HWB 3-15a / HWB 4-15a)
- **P1-P3:** I am becoming aware of how cleanliness, hygiene and safety can affect health and wellbeing and I apply this knowledge in my everyday routines (HWB 0-33a / HWB 1-33a)
- **Curriculum for Excellence: sciences (biological systems) 2016**
- **P1-P3:** I know the symptoms of some common diseases caused by germs. I can explain how they are spread and discuss how some methods of preventing and treating disease benefit society. (SCN 1-13a)

Northern Ireland

- **The Northern Ireland Curriculum Primary: personal understanding and health 2019**
- **KS1:** recognising and valuing the options for a healthy lifestyle, including the benefits of exercise, rest, healthy eating and hygiene (pg.94)
- **The Northern Ireland Curriculum Primary: science and technology 2019**
- **KS2:** The variety of living things in the world and how we can take care of them. (pg.87)

How to use these resources



These materials have been designed to be flexible, for use in:

- regular Science or PSHE lessons
- during a dedicated hygiene session in an induction week
- broken into smaller chunks to start the day off in form time

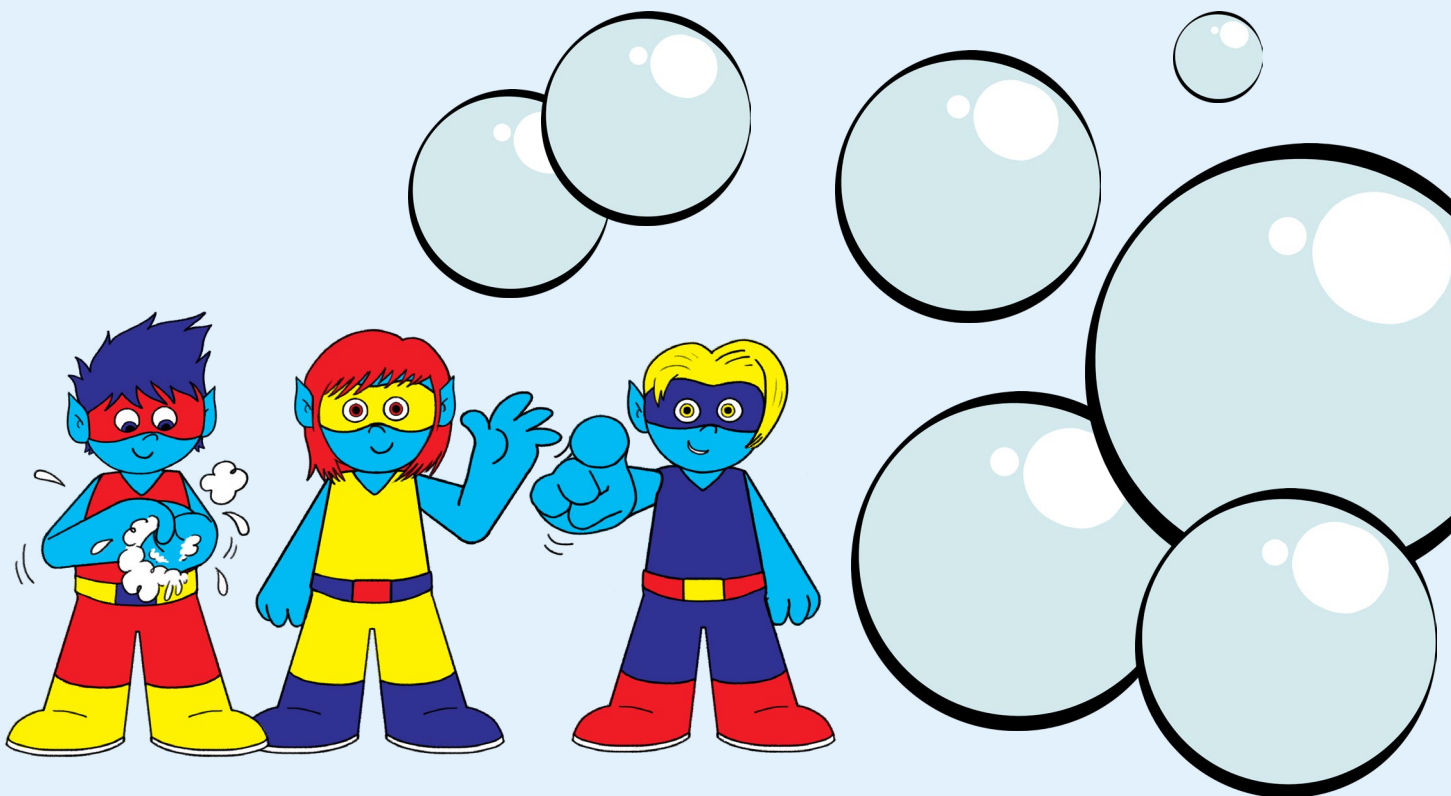
Key times of the year to use these resources

While we need to wash hands everyday, there are particular occasions throughout the year when it's worth a bit more focus on personal hygiene: gatherings and festivals. With the associated excitement of seeing friends, eating special meals and going to special places, some people can forget to look after their hygiene. A holiday or break from normal routines should not be a break from handwashing.

Encouraging behaviour change at school and home

Clearly it's important to reinforce hygiene messages in the home too. To facilitate this, 'Soaper Heroes' resources include materials that can be shared electronically with homes. There's a handwashing poster and comics for storytime.

Additionally, when it is judged to be safe to share physical materials between homes and school, there is a 21 day 'Soaper Heroes' calendar for the student to get signed off at home and then bring back for a celebration in school.



'5 Levers' for behaviour change



'Soaper Heroes' has been created using behavioural science techniques developed by teams of psychologists and academics. These have been summarised in the Unilever '5 Levers' for behaviour change.



It's key to strike a balance between encouraging people to change behaviour while not driving fear and anxiety. This resource necessarily provokes a little worry while, importantly, providing techniques and strategies to help control raised anxieties.

Lever No.1: Make it understood

- Many people believe their hands are clean if they look visibly clean. Unfortunately, that's not true. The 'Glo-germ' demonstration helps students understand that washing hands with water alone is not enough to get rid of germs.

Lever No.2: Make it easy

- For a new behaviour to become a habit, it needs to be seen as easy to do and it must fit into daily routines. This resource makes it easy for students to remember when they need to wash their hands through a song, washroom stickers and a 21-day calendar.

Lever No.3: Make it desirable

- People don't usually do something unless they want to. To encourage students to want to wash their hands, this resource includes fun elements like demonstrations, comics, quizzes and stickers. Studies show that people who commit to a future action in public are more likely to stick to it. This programme asks students to stand up together and commit to a classroom pledge.

Lever No.4: Make it rewarding

- People want to feel good about achieving something, for instance improving their hygiene habits. Students are offered rewards in the form of stickers and certificates for their participation.

Lever No.5: Make it a habit

- Habits are created over time through repetition. Practising a new behaviour every time you encounter a key occasion for at least 21 days, helps to make it permanent. This programme gives students a 21-day calendar, with rewards on completion, as well as activities to repeat handwashing in the classroom, until it becomes a routine.

About the creators of this resource



These materials have been co-created with one of the world's largest providers of handwashing behaviour change programmes, **Lifebuoy**, who have worked with NGOs and governments to reach over 1 billion people, since 2010.

Lifebuoy was created in the UK in 1894 to provide an affordable way for people to protect against cholera.

This resource has been developed with input from a wide range of experts including:

Chartered members of the **British Psychological Society**: Prof. Angel Chater (University of Bedfordshire); Prof. Lucie Byrne-Davis (University of Manchester) and Prof. Madelynne Arden (Sheffield Hallam University).

Teachers and advisors across the UK including Steve & Ana Banks, Megan Bellis, Fran Dunworth, Paul Gordon, Clare Mercer, Nicola S. Morgan, Helen Porter, Martin Staniforth.



The **Royal Society for Public Health** is an independent health education charity and the world's oldest public health body, with over 6,000 members worldwide. Their vision is that every community, workplace and individual should have the opportunity to optimise their own health and wellbeing.



The **Global Handwashing Partnership** is a coalition of international stakeholders working to strengthen handwashing access and practice, as a pillar of international development and public health. Member organisations include government agencies, corporations, non-governmental organisations and academic institutions.



**Promoting handwashing and sanitising
with ANY brand of soap and sanitiser**

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BASH
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