

The Glitter Experiment

This experiment demonstrates how germs and viruses can live on our hands and be passed from person to person.

You will need:

- Glitter
- A bowl of warm water
- Soap
- Paper towels

Then:

- Select 6 children to come to the front.
- Sprinkle some glitter on your hands. Ask children to pretend that the specks of glitter are various germs.
- Shake a child's hand and then ask the child to look at their hand. Say "Look, I've passed on some germs".
- Then ask that child to shake someone else's hand until all the children in the line shake hands.
- Wash your hands with water only but do not dry them. Then show the children your hands (not all glitter should be gone yet).
- Next, wash your hands with soap and water and dry them with a paper towel and show the children again. The glitter should be gone.
- Explain that correct handwashing is important to get rid of all the germs and viruses that we can't always see.

*** Please do rehearse this briefly to ensure you can wash all the glitter away relatively easily.*

