

HAND HYGIENE: ROUTINE IDEAS FOR TEACHERS

When teaching handwashing reinforce the concept of classroom community, protecting and caring for each other. Use videos to teach and demonstrate handwashing. Practice hand washing yourself.

- Video for young children: [CDC - Wash Your Hands!](#) (30 seconds)
- Video for older children: [CDC -Fight Germs, Wash Your Hands!](#) (3 minutes)
- Classroom resources for teaching about handwashing: [Minnesota Department of Health](#)

Hand Washing Routine: Teaching Younger Students

Proper handwashing, especially for the younger students, can be challenging. Establishing a routine at the entrance to the classroom at the beginning of the day, after recess and before lunch helps to keep students and staff healthy while ensuring washing is lasting long enough to rid the hands of germs. Engaging helpers (if desired) makes this a community activity of protecting one's self, as well as protecting your fellow classmates and teacher.

Supplies

- Spray bottle with clean water
- District approved pump hand soap
- Paper towels and tongs
- 3-4 student helpers (wash hands first, put on face cover)

Procedure

1. When lining up to enter the classroom (while ensuring proper distancing)
 - Helper 1 with spray bottle wets the lined-up student's outstretched hands
 - Helper 2 dispenses small amount of soap onto the wetted hands
2. Student scrubs hands together and begins counting to 20 or humming Happy Birthday (quietly to self) or going through the ABCs as they slowly make their way to the sink.
3. Student rinses hands after 20 seconds of vigorous scrubbing.
4. Helper 3 provides towel (with clean tongs –fine motor skill practice)
5. Helper 4 ensures used towels are properly disposed of.

Hand Washing Routine: Idea for Rooms without a Sink

For rooms without a sink you may have all students use the same process as above at a sink near the classroom. If this is not feasible use hand sanitizer with >60% alcohol.

Supplies - Hand Sanitizer >60% alcohol in pump use multiple bottles

Procedure:

1. Students line up to enter the classroom separated 6 feet apart.
2. Helpers with hand sanitizer pumps a dime sized amount into the lined-up student's outstretched hands
3. Students rub hands together being sure to wet thoroughly all parts of hands, top and in between fingers.

