




The Royal College of Pathologists

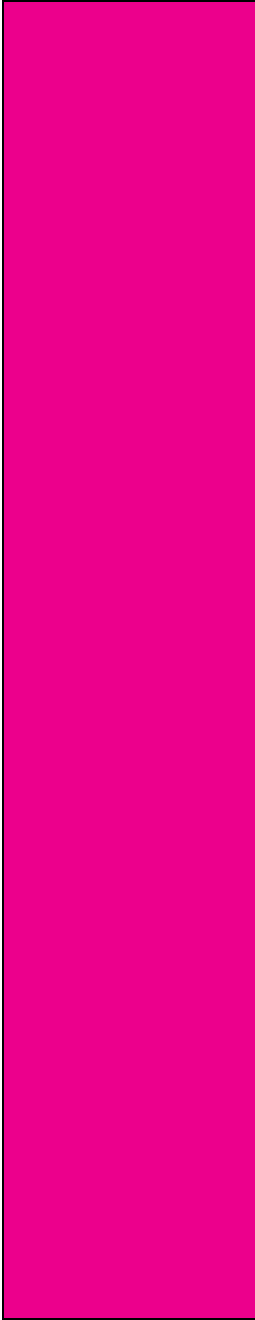
Pathology: the science behind the cure

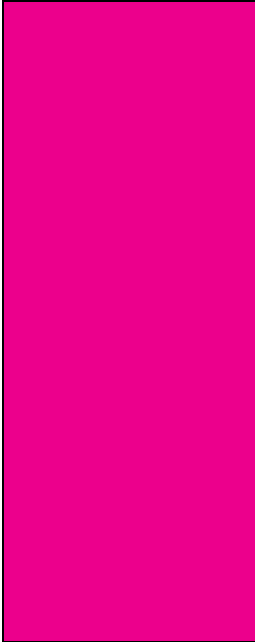
Who's that lurking on your hands?

Event title	Who's that lurking on your hands?
Venue	Cheam Common Infants School
Target audience	Year 2
Learning Outcomes (maximum of 3)	For the children to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Understand the importance of good hand hygiene and when to wash their hands▪ Learn how to wash their hands thoroughly▪ Develop and interest in science and how it can help you to stay healthy
Age range	5-7 years
How was the event advertised?	The event was part of the schools 'science week'
Number attending	120 children form year 2 – in four groups of 30 children
Booking required?	No
Length of event	4 sessions of 45 – 60 minutes
Refreshments provided?	N/A
Equipment needed	I provided – light box, UV hand gel, craft materials for making bugs. The school provided: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ craft tables for the children to make craft bugs for a display, scissors, glue, sellotape▪ hand washing facilities with soap and towels/hand dryers.
People needed	A teaching assistant and teacher with each group of 30 children
Printed material used	Photographs of bugs commonly found on unwashed hands!
Room set up	Class room – carpet area for the discussion session with a table for the UV light box. Then move to tables set up for crafts. A room where the blinds/curtains can be closed to create a

	darkened environment works best for the UV gel and light box.
Event programme	<p>The event began with a demonstration of ‘transmission’ using UV gel. The children shook hands with me and then with each other. They didn’t know whether I had anything on my hands.</p> <p>We then dimmed the room and put the light box on and showed the children how touching me then each other spreads the gel and explained this also happens with germs.</p> <p>The children then washed their hands and came back and checked if the UV gel has gone using the light box.</p> <p>I then demonstrated good hand washing technique and got those with gel on their hands still to wash again and come back to the light box.</p> <p>I then moved on to an arts and crafts session – I showed the children some images of common bugs you find on peoples hands, the playground floor etc. While we made the ‘bugs’ using craft materials I explained why these bugs can make you unwell – if you don’t wash your hands when using the toilet and before eating these bugs can cause infections which may make you ill. I also talked about how these bugs normally live on our bodies, inside us and in the environment around us and if you follow good hand hygiene they are nothing to worry about.</p> <p>The message at the end was that there are bugs everywhere and mostly they are not harmful. It is ok to play and touch each other but to keep everyone healthy you should always wash your hands after using the toilet and before eating food.</p>
Possible variations	
What did the audience particularly like?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The children said they enjoyed making the bugs, learning about different types of bugs and checking their hands under the light. • We really enjoyed making the bugs and looking at big pictures of them. We liked seeing our hands under the light when they glowed with the gel • Putting gel on our hands and we liked looking at it with the special light. Making germs using pompoms etc.
What surprised the audience?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What viruses looked like? How quickly/easily the germs spread. How hard it is to wash all of the germs off properly • That some bugs actually help you as we thought that

	<p>all germs are bad. When I washed my hands really well they still glowed under the light</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How many germs could be on their hands? That E.coli protects our bodies but can make others ill
<p>What else would the audience have liked?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To make some other bugs and to learn about other bugs that live in our bodies and can make us poorly. • The children said they would like to learn about even more types of bugs and where in the body they live.
<p>How much preparation was involved?</p>	
<p>Any other comments?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thank you for the pens and wristbands. The children were excited to be able to take them home and talk about what they had learnt. • The children said they learnt that handwashing is important because germs can spread everywhere. • From the school science lead: Here are the pics of our display around the toilet area in Year 2 corridor as promised. We did some work on The Plague last week and linked it to you coming in and talking about the spread of germs. They remembered so much from you talk so once again, thank-you so much.
<p>Images</p>	





**For more
information
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