

Germs Are Not for Sharing

by Elizabeth Verdick

This colorful, hardback book is a fun way to teach young children the best way to wash their hands. Use it as a step-by-step instruction tool or as a useful reminder during the most germ-filled seasons.



Read

Before:

Introduce the book and tell the children a little bit about it. Follow with a comment or question that is related to the story such as, *When do you wash your hands?* Encourage a discussion so the children can comment, ask questions, and express their feelings. Set the stage for listening by asking an "I wonder" statement based on the cover illustration.

- I wonder what kind of soap she is using?

During:

Encourage the children to comment on the illustrations, ask questions, and predict what will happen next in the story. Children gain confidence and a sense of achievement through being able to correctly predict how a story will end.

After:

Discuss the story. Ask questions...

- When should you wash your hands?
- What do you do when food drops on the floor?
- When you are sick, should you give kisses? What can you do instead?
- Why are germs not for sharing?
- How do you wash your hands?

Do

Practice Makes Perfect

Spend some time modeling the correct way to wash hands and then give the children time to practice it correctly. Teach the children to sing the Alphabet song or Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star while they are washing their hands.

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