

Teacher Resource

# Handwashing

## Focus Questions

1. Before watching the BTN story discuss what you know about hand hygiene.
2. What did the BTN *Handwashing* story explain?
3. What year did Dr Semmelweis realise that handwashing was important for our health?
4. What famous nurse supported Dr Semmelweis' views about handwashing?
5. What is another word for germs?
6. What did the experiment in the BTN story show?
7. How many seconds should you wash your hands for?
8. What are good handwashing practices? Write step-by-step instructions.
9. Why are countries releasing videos about hand hygiene?
10. What did you learn from the BTN *Handwashing* story?

## Activity

### What do you see, think and wonder?

After watching the BTN *Handwashing* story, students will respond to the following questions:

- What did you SEE in this video?
- What do you THINK about what you saw in this video?
- What did you LEARN from this story?
- What was SURPRISING about this story?
- What QUESTIONS do you have about this story?

## Activity

### Glossary

Students will brainstorm a list of key words and terms that relate to the BTN *Handwashing* story. Students may want to use pictures and diagrams to illustrate the meaning and create their own glossary. Here are some words to get you started.

Germs	Hygiene	Contagious
Virus	Bacteria	Preventative
Contamination	Public health	Infectious

## Key Learning

Students will plan and practise strategies to promote good hand hygiene in their community.

## Curriculum

### Health – Year 3-4

Identify and practise strategies to promote health, safety and wellbeing.

Describe strategies to make the classroom and playground healthy, safe and active spaces.

Discuss and interpret health information and messages in the media and internet.

### Health – Year 5-6

Plan and practise strategies to promote health, safety and wellbeing.

Investigate the role of preventive health in promoting and maintaining health, safety and wellbeing for individuals and their communities.

### Health – Year 7-8

Investigate and select strategies to promote health, safety and wellbeing.

Plan and use health practices, behaviours and resources to enhance health, safety and wellbeing of their communities.

## Activity

### Campaign

Students will design a public education campaign to raise awareness about good hand hygiene and the importance of handwashing. Students will need to think about their campaign's aim, target audience, and the value of raising awareness at their school. Use [Canva](#) to design a poster to put up around your school and the wider community.

To create a school awareness campaign, students will need to identify the following:

- When should you wash your hands? Make a list.
- What are good handwashing practices? Write step-by-step instructions.
- Why is handwashing so important?
- How can you teach other kids about good hand hygiene? Think of creative ways you can teach kids your message about handwashing.

Some questions to consider when designing your campaign:

- What is the campaign's main aim?
- Do you have a slogan or message? What is it?
- Who is your target audience?
- What is the best way to communicate the message?

Discuss with students how they will get their message out there to help raise public awareness. Some possibilities include:

- Short film or animation
- Community service announcement (for television or radio).
- Press release (create posters to be put up around the school or pamphlets to give to all students).

## Activity

### Public service announcements

Because the coronavirus COVID-19 is a global concern, video PSAs (public service announcements) are emerging from all corners of the globe. As well as government productions, individuals including comedians, musicians and TikTokers, are making and sharing their own videos about handwashing.

Watch the following videos to see how people in other countries are communicating the message about good hygiene and handwashing.



[Instagram – Danial Kheirikhah from Iran](#)



[YouTube - Vietnam's Ministry of Health](#)



[YouTube - Quang Đăng](#)



[YouTube - Japan's Ministry of Health](#)

After watching the videos hold a discussion about PSAs (public service announcements) and why they are important. Students will then respond to the following:

- What is a public service announcement?
- What was your favourite video about handwashing? Why?
- What video most effectively communicated good hand hygiene?
- Choose one of the videos and describe what is happening. What message does it communicate? What is the purpose of the video?
- In small groups create your own short video about handwashing and why it is important.

## Useful Websites

Handwashing – BTN

<https://www.abc.net.au/btn/classroom/handwashing/10539976>

Handwashing – Health Direct

<https://www.healthdirect.gov.au/hand-washing>

Global Handwashing Day

<https://globalhandwashing.org/global-handwashing-day/>

Handwashing: why it's important – Better Health

<https://www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au/health/ConditionsAndTreatments/handwashing-why-its-important>

Coronavirus Explained – BTN

<https://www.abc.net.au/btn/classroom/coronavirus-explained/11933838>

Hands are important in containing coronavirus and now is the time to start good hygiene habits – ABC News

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/health/2020-03-01/hand-washings-role-in-stopping-coronavirus-covid-19-spread/12014020>