

ACTIVITY FOUR: CLEAN HANDS! MAKING A HAND WASHER

This TECHNOLOGY lesson follows on from the earlier lesson on basic sanitation. Learners use materials gathered from home and around the school to make their own toilet hand washer.

Making a hand washer



Start collecting different plastic bottles (preferably with 'clip fast' nozzles) about a week before you start the activity. Ask the learners to assist with the collection of bottles from home.

The class can either be divided into groups of four or five learners or, if you have enough bottles (and this is the best option!), the learners can make individual bottle hand washers and then take them home.



Some bottles that have been used by many schools are those of the Energade, Powerade variation where the bottles have a 'clip fast' nozzle.

1. Add a teaspoon of liquid soap to each bottle and then fill with water.
2. Carefully tie string around the bottle so that it hangs in the correct position.
3. Hang a hand washer near the toilet for washing hands after using the toilet.
4. Hang another hand washer outside the classroom for hand washing before eating.



How to use your hand washer

Depending on the nozzle type of your bottle, it can be clipped and left open and squeezed to release water when needed. Some of the nozzles may need to be clipped shut to prevent losing water.

Soap?

If you don't have any liquid soap, 'shavings' from a bar of soap can be added to the water in the bottle.

Once all the hand washers (in all their different colours, shapes and sizes) have been made, ask each child to hold up his/her hand washer (or if it was a group effort, hold up the group's hand washer) and ask each child what they feel about their hand washer, could they make it better, does it look good, do they think it will be used, could they make another one on their own at home?

Remember that it is very important to wash your hands often.

Why a towel can be unhygienic?

Most toilets and bathrooms provide a towel near the washbasins on which to dry your hands. This is, however, a very unhygienic practice as germs are wiped onto the towel, which remains damp, providing suitable conditions for the growing of bacteria. Rather have no towel and shake your hands dry.

Criteria to assess learners during this technology lesson

Criteria	Exceeded requirements of the Learning Outcome	Satisfied requirements of the Learning Outcome	Partially satisfied requirements of the Learning Outcome	Not satisfied requirements of the Learning Outcome
The learner was able to choose what he/she needed from all the materials that had been collected by both the teacher and the class				
The learner was able to use the available materials (bottle, string, scissors etc) to make a hand washer				
The learner was able to discuss his/her hand washer				