

Germy Storytime Suggestions

The MOHAI education team has selected the following stories about germs, the importance of hand-washing, and what happens when you're sick to help kids understand what is currently happening in our community and how we can all do our part to prevent the spread of germs. Since we can't read to you this month, we've chosen the following Youtube Read Alouds and e-books so that you can hear some of our favorites at home. Happy hand washing!

Youtube Read Alouds

[Germs are Not for Sharing by Elizabeth Verdick](#) – a great book about why it is important to keep our germs to ourselves, and how to do it:

[I don't want to wash my hands! by Tony Ross](#) – “but I ALREADY washed my hands!” says the Little Princess! A fun and silly book that helps illustrate why handwashing is important to do many times throughout the day:

[Germs! Germs! Germs! by Bobbi Katz](#) – a fun rhyming book about what germs are, how they work, and their worst enemies – including the dreaded soap!

[Bear Feels Sick by Karma Wilson and Jane Chapman](#) – Bear isn't feeling well, so his friends take care of him. A great book to talk about helping others, and the importance of doing so while maintaining social distancing!

e-Books

If you would rather read an e-book with your family, check out these great options below!

[Germs are Not for Sharing by Elizabeth Verdick](#)

[Llama Llama Home with Mama by Anna Dewdney](#)

[Exploring the New Coronavirus: a Comic Just for Kids by Malaka Gharib](#) – print and fold

Jumping Germs Activity

Germs hang out in your nose, in your mouth, and other places on your body. When there are germs on the people and things that we touch, they hitch a ride on our hands until we touch our nose, mouth, or eyes, where they can get into our bodies and make us sick! To better imagine how germs jump from place to place, do the craft below with your family!

You will need:

- 3 pieces of felt in at least 2 different colors
- A washable marker
- Scissors



- 1) Trace your hand on the felt. Then, repeat with another piece of felt, so that you have two felt hands.



- 2) Cut out the outlines of your hands, so that you have a pair — ask a grownup for help if you need to!



3) Cut out some germs, using a different color of felt



4) Make a pile of germs



5) Gently press one of the hands onto the germs. What happened?



6) Put the hands together and press down gently, then pull them apart. What happened to the germs?



Unlike felt germs, cold, flu, and other viruses can stick to all kinds of surfaces that people touch, which is why it's important to wash our hands and clean the things that people touch frequently!

What else can you do to help stop the spread of germs?

Sneaky Germs Activity

To see just how many things people touch, where sneaky germs like to hang out, do the activity below with someone you live with.

You will need:

- Paper
- Drawing supplies
- Scissors
- Tape

1) First doodle some germs!

Look up pictures of what germs look like under a microscope for inspiration. On a piece of paper, imagine and draw many germs. We recommend 25 germs appx. 2 inches in size as a starting point – not too big, not too small. Cut each one out individually.

2) Next, pick a person in your house to observe for 30 min or an hour - ideally when they are not working or doing school work!

3) Use your collection of germs to track all of the surfaces they touch in that time by taping a germ to that surface.

4) At the end of your observation period, notice where the germs have spread! Where did the germs end up? Did any places surprise you?