Handwashing Science Experiment

Information

We are going to use some pieces of bread to investigate how germs spread depending on how well we wash our hands. This experiment will tell us all about the unlikely places we can find germs, and will give us a clear picture of which is the best way to wash our hands!

Method

There will be 5 pieces of bread that have been touched by different hands/objects. We will leave the bread for 4 weeks to see how fast mould appears on the bread. After 4 weeks, we will see which bread has become the most mouldy. Remember, the more germs that are on the bread, the more mouldy the bread will become!
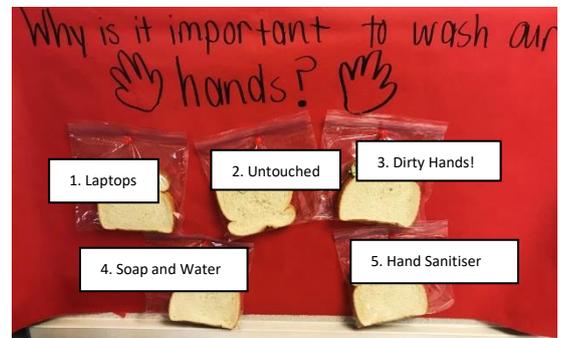
Piece 1 – Wiped all over laptops.

Piece 2 – Fresh and completely untouched.

Piece 3 – Touched by dirty, unwashed hands!

Piece 4 – Touched by hands washed in soap and water.

Piece 5 – Touched by hands washed in hand sanitiser.

Step 1 - Prediction

In your purple books, write the title 'Prediction' and complete these sentences. Add more detail and reasons for your prediction if you can!

The mouldiest piece will be…

I think this because…

The least mouldy piece will be…

I think this because…

The other pieces will…

(tell me about each piece)

Miss Daniel says:

"NO SPOILERS!! Do not scroll down until you have made your prediction!!"

Step 2 - Results

In your purple books, write the title 'Results' and describe what you see! This is the bread after 4 weeks! Which bread is the most mouldy? Which others are also pretty bad? Which is the least mouldy? Which ones aren't too bad?

(Chromebooks = laptops)

Step 3 - Conclusion

In your purple books, write the title 'Conclusion'. Write a short paragraph saying what you have found out from the experiment, for example:

- Why do you think the slice for the laptops had the most mould? Did that surprise you?

- Why do you think laptops had more mould than dirty hands?

- What is better, soap and water or hand sanitiser? Does this surprise you?

- Why is it important to wash your hands properly?

- What will you learn from this? Will you do anything different?