**HOW DO VIRUSES SPREAD?**

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**Aim**: Learning how having dirty hands can contribute spreading viruses, and passing them to other people.

**Age**: 6+ y.o.

**Complexity**: low

**Cost**: <£5

**Location**: any home

**Materials & Equipment**: glitter

**Outline:**

1. explain the child that viruses are so small that we cannot see them with our eyes. We will imagine that viruses can be represented by glitter, so we can see them.

2. an adult (parent) covers the hand of the child with a small amount of glitter

3. the child is let free to do what they want. The adult can ask the child to itch their own face, shake their hand, or to pass them a glass. Glitter will be transferred from the hand of the child to anything they touch, directly or indirectly.

4. the child can observe where glitter went

**Learning outcomes:**

- viruses can be passed to other people in many ways, even without us realizing it

- it is important to keep your hands clean

**RISK ASSESSMENT**

**Adult supervision is required for any experiment!**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| HAZARD | Likelihood and Seriousness of Injury | Control Measures | Remaining Risk |
| choking | Very unlikely. Deliberately inhaling a large amount of glitter (substantially more than what required for this experiment) may cause coughing or lung irritation. | The parent will be in control of the tub of glitter | none |
| poisoning | Extremely unlikely. Commercially available glitter is non-toxic. | The parent will be in control of the tub of glitter | none |

**Remember - never do experiments alone!**