

Quick Demonstration to Explain Germs and Handwashing

While not scientifically directly linked to germs (it's actually about surface tension), the following simple demonstration takes just a few moments and acts as a great demonstration for reinforcing the importance of thorough hand washing.

Plus it adds a little magic for kids - the sort of magic that helps to make the message memorable!

All you need is a bowl of water, some black pepper and liquid hand wash.



Sprinkle the pepper onto the surface of the water. It will float. Tell your child that the pepper represents germs.

Ask your child to dip one finger gently into the water to see what will happen to the pepper. Nothing happens - just like not much happens when they give their hands a cursory dip under a running tap when washing their hands.

Take their finger out of the water, dry it and coat it with hand soap. Now have them dip their finger again into the water. What happens to the pepper? Magic, right!

<https://childhood101.com/teaching-kids-about-germs-hand-washing/>