

Show Them the Germs! ***Glo Germ™***

Looking for a fun learning tool that illustrates the ease with which germs are spread and emphasizes the importance of proper handwashing and cleaning? “Glo Germ™” can help student to visualize “germs.” Glo Germ™ products are made of tiny plastic particles that are only visible under an ultraviolet light. The florescent glowing particles represent “germs.”

Before class, rub some Glo Germ™ liquid or powder on your hands. Shake hands with students as they enter your classroom. About halfway through class, students should place their hands under an ultraviolet light. Their hands will be glowing indicating that the teacher’s “germs” were passed to them. Furthermore, anything the students touched with their hands will be glowing and will show how extensive the spread of germs can be.

As an exercise to teach proper handwashing students can rub some Glo Germ™ on their hands. Then, they should repeatedly wash their hands for varying lengths of time. After washing their hands, any remaining germs, especially under fingernails, will be visible under the ultraviolet light.

As another activity, some Glo Germ™ powder can be lightly dusted over an area or object. Instruct students to clean that surface. Areas that students do not wash thoroughly will glow under the ultraviolet light.

A Glo Germ™ kit includes an 8 oz. bottle of liquid, a 4 oz. container of powder, and an ultraviolet lamp (\$49.95). Items can be purchased separately. To order a kit, call the Glo Germ™ Company in Moab, Utah, at 800-842-6622, or visit their web site at www.glogerm.com. The web site also includes teacher ideas and classroom activities.

