Do Bugs Need Drugs?
Daycare Program

Part One: Information for the Early Childhood Educator
Acknowledgements

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Introduction

Welcome to the Do Bugs Need Drugs? daycare program.

The children’s activities described below focus on three key concepts:

- **HANDWASHING IS IMPORTANT**
  Handwashing is the best way to stop the spread of infections.

- **NOT ALL BUGS ARE CREATED EQUAL**
  Bacteria and viruses are different. Antibiotics don’t work for viruses.

- **USE ANTIBIOTICS WISELY**
  Taking antibiotics when they are not needed leads to antibiotic resistance, a serious health risk that can affect anyone.

The activities are designed for pre-school age children and encourage learning by exploration and participation.

ENJOY!!
Some Thoughts for the Early Childhood Educator

As the Early Childhood Educator, you will provide the children in your care with these play experiences.

Please keep in mind that:

1. These are familiar activities with a focus specifically on the Do Bugs Need Drugs? objectives.

2. Your role as a play facilitator is crucial. Your playful presence and your thoughtful comments/questions will ensure that the learning objectives are met.

3. Children learn best through playful repetition. It is recommended that the activities are carried out over a time period of two to three days. It is also recommended to repeat some or all of the activities at a later time. The appropriate handwashing practice needs to be continually reinforced.

4. These experiences are meant to be a creative resource for you. Feel free to adapt the activities to the particular interests and capabilities of the children in your group.

The following diagrams will remind you of young children’s key developmental characteristics:
Younger Child

- Curious
  - Likes to explore
- Engages in simple make-believe play
- Likes to imitate others
- Is developing conceptual thought
- Has short attention span
- Has little language
- Is full of energy
- Engages in parallel play
Curious: 
Asks lots of questions

Is developing “magical” thinking

Moves body creatively

Produces representational drawings

Likes to imitate others

Is lively and adventurous

Has increased attention span

Uses adult-like language

Engages in role-playing and can play cooperatively

Older Child
MAIN CONCEPTS:  
- Handwashing is important  
- Not all bugs are created equal  
- Use antibiotics wisely

STORYTIME:  
Bugly comes to visit  

**Two to Three Years of Age**

- Bugly Scripted Dialogue
- Book: I Don’t Want to Wash My Hands
- Song: Twinkle, Twinkle
- Poem: Germs are Everywhere

PLAYROOM FUN:  
Activities for children  

**Two to Three Years of Age**

- Match-the-Bug
- Wash the Germs Away
- Sticker Fun Pick-A-Bug
- What’s in the Dirt?
- Hand Print Mural

ONGOING HANDWASHING PRACTICE  

**All Ages**

- Song: Twinkle, Twinkle
- Bugly Visits at Snacktime
Information for the Early Childhood Educator

MAIN CONCEPTS:
- Handwashing is important
- Not all bugs are created equal
- Use antibiotics wisely

STORYTIME:
Bugly comes to visit Three to Five Years of Age
- Bugly Scripted Dialogue
- Books: I Don’t Want to Wash My Hands, Germs Are Not for Sharing
- Song: Twinkle, Twinkle
- Poem: Germs are Everywhere

PLAYROOM FUN:
Activities for children Three to Five Years of Age
- Bug Toss
- Hand Print Mural
- Bug Puppets
- Sticker Fun Pick-A-Bug
- Invisible Germs Drawing

ONGOING HANDWASHING PRACTICE
All Ages
- Song: Twinkle, Twinkle
- Bugly Visits at Snacktime