

# WHEN SHOULD WE WASH OUR HANDS?





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After playing with pets

After using the bathroom









After coughing, sneezing, and blowing your nose

BEFORE and AFTER touching a cut or open sore





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**BEFORE** and AFTER eating

After playing outside



# Washing Hands

All staff and children's hands must be washed with soap and warm running water for at least 20 seconds.



## Wash your hands BEFORE:

- Giving medication or taking temperatures
  Eating
- Cleaning wounds or changing bandages
- Preparing and serving food, snacks, or bottles
- Sensory play or water tables

### Wash your hands AFTER:

- ANY contact with urine, stool, vomit, or any other bodily fluids
- Sneezing, coughing, or blowing your nose
- Playing outside
- Messy activities

- Using the toilet
- Changing a diaper
- Changing a bandage
- Playing with animals
- Cleaning activities

#### **REMEMBER:**

- Hand washing sinks must always have soap and paper towels.
- Diaper-aged children MUST have their hands washed for them, especially after a diaper change.
- Children must be monitored and reminded of the hand-washing steps each day.
- Wipes are not an alternative to hand washing. They may be used in addition to hand washing.
- Hand sanitizers may only be used at times and in areas where hand washing facilities are not available, such as on a field trip.



# **How to Wash Your Hands**

#### Instructions:

- 1. Wet hands using warm running water.
- 2. Add soap and rub hands outside of the water for 20 seconds.
- 3. Wash all surfaces, including back of hands, wrists, between fingers, and under fingernails.
- 4. Rinse hands well with warm water.
- 5. Dry hands with a paper towel.
- 6. Turn off the water with the same paper towel.
- 7. Throw the paper towel away.



Clean hands prevent germs from spreading and they can save lives!

Do not use hand sanitizer in place of hand washing!

