

***Activity name: Environmental Health–Pass It On. . .***

**Goals**

- to study and research emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases, particularly through vector-borne, food-borne, and water-borne educational activities
- to understand that certain exposures in the environment cause various infectious diseases

Activity	Objectives
Pass It On. . .	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Demonstrate how people pass diseases, etc., through their hands</li></ul>

Everyone touches doorknobs. What is on one person’s hand is passed on and on. Before students enter class, sprinkle the doorknob with flour or talc powder. Hopefully, they will not notice the powder on their hands. Ten or fifteen minutes into the class period look for evidence of the powder on student hands, books, face. Turn off the lights. Using a black light the white powder will glow a bright white. Hopefully, the black light will reveal that the powder has been transferred to many places. **Caution:** Avoid shining the black light into student eyes.

Discussion of this activity may lead to the mechanics of disease transfer from bacteria and viruses. While bacterial and viral diseases may be transmitted through the air, they may also be wiped into our eyes and nose from our hands.

A variation of this activity may be to sprinkle powder in front of the door. Again, turn off the lights and using the black light look for the tracks.

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