

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Period \_\_\_\_\_

## Hygiene Potato Experiment

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Students will watch as the teacher peels three potatoes. The teacher will explain that rubber gloves are being worn so that no germs will touch the potatoes.

The first potato will go into a plastic zip lock reclosable bag as is. (control group)

The second potato will be passed around the class. Have students look at it closely to see if they can see any germs. They can look for dirty spots or other identifying marks. The purpose is for the potato to be exposed to many hands and many germs. This detail should not be brought up to students at this point however.

The second potato will be put into a plastic zip lock reclosable bag after all students have handled it sufficiently.

The students should all wash their hands AFTER they have touched the 2nd potato, but BEFORE they touch the 3rd potato.

Students will practice washing their hands properly.

After students have washed their hands, they will pass around the 3rd potato in the same manner.

The third potato will finally be put into a plastic zip lock reclosable bag.

Students will fill out the "Hypothesis - Make A Guess" section of the worksheet. The teacher could choose to have students work independently or in cooperative groups.

Next, students fill out the DAY ONE section for "Observations -Take a look; Data - Write it down; and Graphs - Make it a picture.

For Days 2-5 students will observe and fill out the appropriate days on their worksheets. At the end of the last day students will discuss and fill out the "Conclusions - Decide what it means" section of the worksheet.