

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Activity

Instructor Guide

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Explain the importance of PPE.
- Explain the importance of handwashing.

PREPARATION TIME: 5 minutes

ACTIVITY TIME: 10 minutes

MATERIALS

- Shaving cream
- Personal protective equipment (PPE), such as gloves, shoe covers, coveralls, face mask, etc.

EXPLANATION OF ACTIVITY

Germ can be present even when things (clothing, gloves, shoes, equipment, etc.) appear clean or when animals appear healthy.

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Ask at least one volunteer to dress in PPE.
2. Once dressed in PPE, fill the volunteer's hands with shaving cream.
3. Ask the volunteer to remove PPE.
4. Lead a group discussion about how clean the volunteer is able to keep his/her clothing, skin, etc.
5. Discuss the importance of handwashing even when wearing gloves and other PPE. Even when hands were visibly contaminated, it was hard to stay clean.

DISCUSSION

- Discuss the importance of handwashing in disease prevention.
- Discuss ways to prevent direct contact transmission:
 - Isolate sick animals
 - Wear gloves when working with sick animals
 - Wash your hands after having contact with animals or being in animal areas even if you did not touch the animals
- Discuss ways to prevent indirect contact transmission:
 - Avoid sharing equipment, or clean and disinfect equipment when sharing is necessary
 - Clean and disinfect any equipment used with sick animals or animals with skin lesions
 - Dispose of or wash boots and clothing after animal contact
 - Wash your hands after having contact with animals or being in animal areas even if you did not touch the animals
- Discuss ways to prevent aerosol transmission:
 - Increase distance between sick animals and healthy animals and people
 - Wear respiratory protection when working with sick animals
 - Provide fresh air to animals and people
 - Decrease humidity and odor build up in barns
 - Stay away from animal barns if you are sick
- Discuss ways to prevent oral transmission:
 - Wash your hands
 - After contact with animals or being in animal areas even if you did not touch the animals
 - After cleaning pens or contact with manure
 - Before preparing or handling food
 - After going to the bathroom
 - Cook meat to the appropriate temperature
 - Store food at the appropriate temperature
- Discuss ways to prevent vector borne transmission:
 - Use insect control products
 - Work with your veterinarian to check and treat your animals for parasites
 - Prevent standing water
 - Check for ticks on people and pets

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