





Dear Bay County Educator:

There is a lot of concern about the H1N1 strain of flu and the impact it can have on school children who are together every day in your classrooms. According to the Center for Disease Control (CDC), children who wash their hands four times a day are absent 20 percent less days with respiratory diseases and 50 percent less days with digestive tract ailments than those who do not regularly wash their hands.

The Bay County Health Department (BCHD), in collaboration with Michigan State University Extension (MSUE), and the American Red Cross (ARC), have put together these resources because children being out of school places a great burden on their ability to learn, teachers ability to effectively teach, and a financial burden on school districts. This folder has been developed as your classroom H1N1 teacher toolkit, which can be used as a guide for follow-up lesson plans in your classroom. We hope you find these resources useful in continuing the discussion of good hand washing habits and germ and disease prevention in your classroom.

Included in this folder:

- Action Steps for Teachers to Prevent the Spread of Flu
- The 6 Steps of Hand Washing poster
- The Germ Quiz
- Slam Dunk Your Germs lesson plans
- Soapy Solutions/There's More than Meets the Eye lesson plans
- Fight BAC! Across the Curriculum/Around your School
- Scrubby Bear handout Follow-up from kindergarten through second grade assembly
- Visit <u>www.baycounty-mi.gov/MSUE</u>, then choose 'H1N1 School Outreach' for more resources and all of these handouts in a downloadable format.
- Visit <u>www.baycounty-mi.gov/Health</u> for the most current information regarding H1N1 and seasonal flu.

Again, we hope you find these resources useful in your classroom. If you have any further questions email us at <u>hln1schooloutreach@baycounty.net</u>, or contact MSU Extension - Bay County, 515 Center Avenue, Suite 301, Bay City, MI 48708, or call (989) 895-4026.

Sincerely,

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