

Cleaning in School to Prevent the Spread of Flu

THE IMPORTANCE OF CLEANING DURING FLU SEASON



Cleaning and disinfecting surfaces will help prevent the flu from spreading. The flu virus can live and potentially infect a person for up to 48 hours after being deposited on a surface.



Standard cleaning practices, such as cleaning with soap and water, will work to remove and kill flu viruses. You don't need to do additional disinfection beyond routine cleaning to slow the spread of flu.

Wash surfaces with a general household cleaner to remove germs. Rinse with water, and follow with a disinfectant to kill any remaining germs.



Routinely clean surfaces and objects that are touched often, such as desks, countertops, doorknobs, computer keyboards, hands-on learning items, faucet handles, and phones. Empty trash cans as needed.

Special sanitizing processes beyond routine cleaning (including closing schools to clean every surface in the building) are not necessary or recommended to slow the spread of flu, even during a flu outbreak.

CLEANING SUPPLIES



Use general cleaning products that you normally use. Always follow product label directions. Make sure that the label states that the EPA has approved the product for effectiveness against influenza A virus.



Provide adequate supplies, such as general EPA-registered cleaning products, gloves, disinfecting wipes, and no-touch trash cans.

For more information on cleaning from the CDC:
www.cdc.gov/flu/school/cleaning.htm