

MOULDY BREAD EXPERIMENT



Mould, bacteria and viruses are everywhere around us all the time, but some places gather more than others... At school we are carrying out an experiment using bread as a medium to see *which school surfaces have the most mould microbes!*

Surfaces we are investigating:

- A desk *before* it has been cleaned
- A desk *after* it has been cleaned
- Unwashed hands
- Hands washed with soap and water
- Sanitised hands

Aim: What do we want to find out?	The aim of this experiment is to find out which surfaces at school have the most mould microbes.
My Hypothesis:	I predict that the bread wiped on the _____ will grow the most mould, and that the bread wiped on the _____ will grow the least mould.
Independent variable: What are we changing?	The _____ that the bread is wiped on
Dependent variable:	The amount of _____ that the bread is covered in after 1 week

What are we measuring?	
Controlled variables: What are we keeping the same?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Same type of bread - Same type of plastic bag to store the bread - Same amount of time to grow the mould <p>Can you think of any more?</p>
Method:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Set out 5 bags with one of the following: unclean desk, clean desk, soap-washed hands, sanitised hands, unwashed hands 2. Wipe 1 slice of bread across an unclean desk then place each slice in its own plastic bag that you have labelled 'Unclean desk'. 3. With fresh gloves, carry out step 2 again for each of the surfaces described in step 1, and place each slice in its correctly-labelled bag and seal. 4. Place the bags in the same location, an area that is room-temperature and away from sunlight. 5. After 1 week, observe the area of mould covering each slice of bread and compare these between the bread samples wiped on different places

Results:	Amount of mould covering the slices of bread (%)					
		Unwashed hands	Washed hands	Sanitised hands	Dirty desk	Clean desk
	Slice of bread					
Conclusion:	My prediction (hypothesis) was _____.					

The bread with the most mould was the one that had been wiped on the _____.

The bread with the least mould was the one that had been wiped on the _____.

This tells me that the surfaces at school with the most microbes are _____.

I have therefore learned from this experiment that _____

Next time, I would like to find out _____.