



Wish for WASH x Atlanta Girl Scouts

# STEM Expo Booth

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# INTRODUCTION

**Wish for WASH (W4W)** is an organization dedicated to educating and innovating in the **water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH)** sector. The 2023 Design Thinking and Community Outreach team within W4W hosted a table at the Girl Scout 2023 STEM EXPO. **The focus of this event was to educate girl scouts about specifically sanitation and hygiene through a fun, short activity.**

The activity was based on learning about **personal hygiene**. Many people underestimate the importance of washing their hands. Infections can come from anywhere, therefore, it's important to **prevent infections by washing your hands with soap**. It prevents infections because many people frequently touch their eyes, nose and mouth without realizing it, which are some areas where germs can most easily get into the body.

The materials in this activity included construction paper hands, zip lock bags, colorful pom poms, and clear body wash.



**Prevent infections by washing hands with soap**



# EVENT PROCESS

The table was set up in a way that the participants would first choose a cut out paper hand and write **5 reasons why it's important to wash one's hands** or when they typically do wash their hands.



Participants would then pass their hand to a Wish for WASH team member who would tape it to the back of a zip lock bag filled with clear body wash. Afterwards the participants chose a cup of pom poms and then dump them into the zip lock bag.

As this process was happening, **Wish for WASH team members would explain how the participants' hands would get dirty throughout the day doing lots of activities and that's how they get germs on them.** This is represented by the construction



paper hand with the pom poms being the germs. Participants could then visually see a **representation** of how using soap, or in this case, body wash, will physically **remove the germs** when they wash their hands through being able to move the pom poms off of their construction paper hand.



## CONCLUSION

Overall, the tabling activity was super successful and the Wish for WASH team was proud to engage with 250+ girls from around the state, and of all ages in this WASH-related activity.

Many participants were really able to gain a better understanding of why it's so **important to wash their hands** frequently and keep up their personal hygiene.

The most surprising thing was how well this activity really **included and engaged parents** as they would **help their child** think of reasons for why it's important to wash their hands or when they would. Parents seemed to have a fun time **brainstorming** with their children and it really fostered an **environment of collaboration**. It also

became a teaching moment for many parents to help with their children's writing skills, as many of the children were still learning how to spell words and write sentences.

It was a fantastic experience not only being able to foster a learning environment about **sanitation and personal hygiene**, but also seeing the collaboration through brainstorming happening between participants of all ages at the Girl Scout 2023 STEM EXPO.

Participants gained a better understanding of why it's so important to wash their hands frequently and keep up their personal hygiene.



#everybodypoops

# Thank You!

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