

CLEAN GENE™



## CLEAN GENE's Terrible Case of GermBug

"Hi boys and girls. I'm CLEAN GENE. I'm going to tell you a story about how you can stay healthy. This is a true story of what happened to me one day. You need to listen closely because you will be my detectives. When you hear me tell you about something I did without using good hand hygiene habits, raise your hand. Together we'll solve the mystery of where I might have picked up the bad GermBug that made me sick. Are you ready?"

CLEAN GENE knew it was going to be a beautiful day when he woke up. The sun was shining brightly and the birds were singing a heavenly song. CLEAN GENE excitedly jumped out of his book-bed ready to begin his day. He took a quick bath, pulled on his favorite outfit, and slid down the banister just in time for mom's mouth-watering pancakes.

"Good morning, mom! Good morning, dad!" said CLEAN GENE. Every morning, before CLEAN GENE ate his breakfast, he would hug and kiss his pet puppy, Dot. Dot stayed outside at night and CLEAN GENE missed her during his sleep. Mom cautioned CLEAN GENE, "You know you need to wash your hands after handling Dot. She's been outside all night and hasn't had her daily bath yet. You know, GermBug is going around and I don't want you to get sick." "Yes, mom," said CLEAN GENE happily. CLEAN GENE went to the kitchen sink and washed his hands with soap and warm water. "There, all clean!" he shouted.

After breakfast, CLEAN GENE brushed his teeth and went on his merry way to school. He stopped by Betsy's house to see if she wanted to walk to school with him. Betsy opened the door and greeted CLEAN GENE with a big wet sneeze. CLEAN GENE tried to block the sneeze with his hands, but still got sprayed with the wetness of Betsy's sneeze.

"Aaaaa-choooo! Oh, excuse me. I am getting sick. Sorry, I can't walk with you to school today. I have to stay home and get better," said Betsy. "My mom said that GermBug is going around."

"I hope you feel better soon. It's not fun being sick," said CLEAN GENE as he placed his hands on his lips and blew Betsy a friendly kiss goodbye. CLEAN GENE got to school early enough to play a game of ring-around-the-rosy. Holding hands with his friends Bonnie and Brian, he twirled joyfully around in a circle. "...ring around the rosy, pocket full of posies, ashes,ashes, we all fall down!" they sang with glee. As CLEAN GENE fell to the cement, he scraped his knee. "Ouch!" cried CLEAN GENE.

Just then the school bell rang and it was time to go to class. As CLEAN GENE sat at his desk he placed his hands on his knee. He thought that would stop it from stinging. His teacher, Ms. Booksmart, saw what he was doing and sent him to the nurse to get his knee cleaned and bandaged. "Children, it's important to wash if you get a cut or scrape so germs from the ground or your hands don't get into your skin," warned Ms. Booksmart. "If harmful bacteria get in, you could get sick. That's why it's important to keep a clean bandage on until the cut closes."