# MRS. STANT'S CLASS EXPERIMENT

Third Grade

Ms. Klein's Science Class

### IS YOUR HOUSE REALLY THAT CLEAN?

<u>Summary:</u> This experiment will expose how much bacteria is on common household items. This experiment is important because it will demonstrate the importance of handwashing and cleaning common items your home.

### QUESTION:

Which item in your home has the most bacteria?

### **HYPOTHESIS:**

I think the kitchen sponge will have the most bacteria.

- Bathroom door knob(outside)
- Cell phone
- Kitchen sponge

### **MATERIALS:**

- 3 petri dishes with agar
- 3 cotton swabs
- 1 bacteria kit instruction booklet



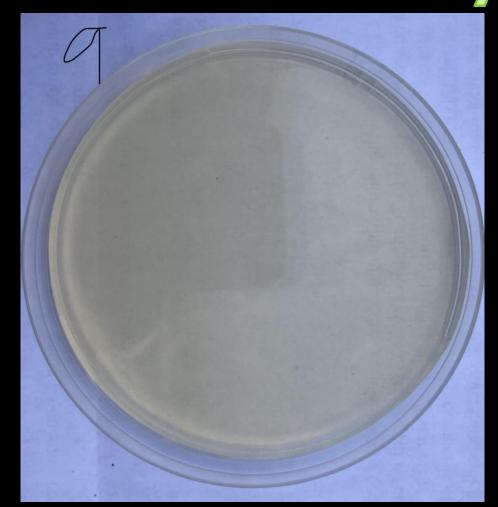
#### PROCEDURES:

- Step 1 Rub the cotton swab on the bathroom door knob.
- Step 2 Then rub the swab on the agar and seal the container.
- Step 3 Now you need to label your petri dish with: "bathroom door knob."
- Step 4 Rub the cotton swab on the cell phone.
- Step 5 Then rub the swab on the agar and seal the container.
- Step 6 Now you need to label your petri dish with: "cell phone."
- Step 7 Rub a new cotton swab on the kitchen sponge.
- Step 8 Then rub the swab on the agar and seal the container.
- Step 9 Now you need to label your petri dish with: "kitchen sponge."
- Step 10 Review instruction manual and let the petri dishes sit for one week. During the week, make observations and take photos.

### **DATA:**

### The Control: Day 3

We did not see any bacteria growing on our control for day 3. We compared this petri dish to our other petri dishes that were used to test specific items.



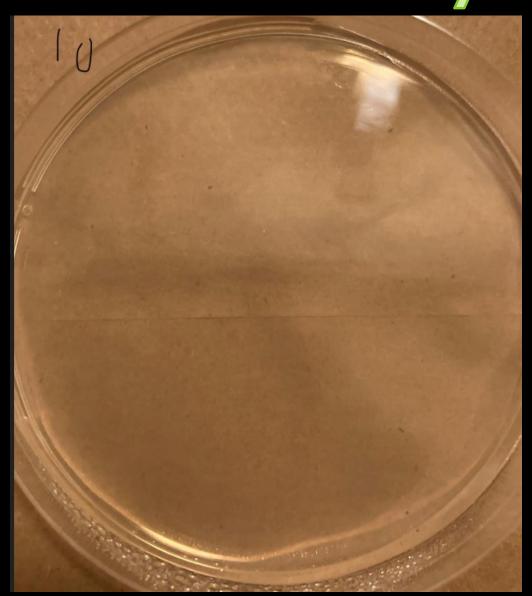
### Observation: Day 3



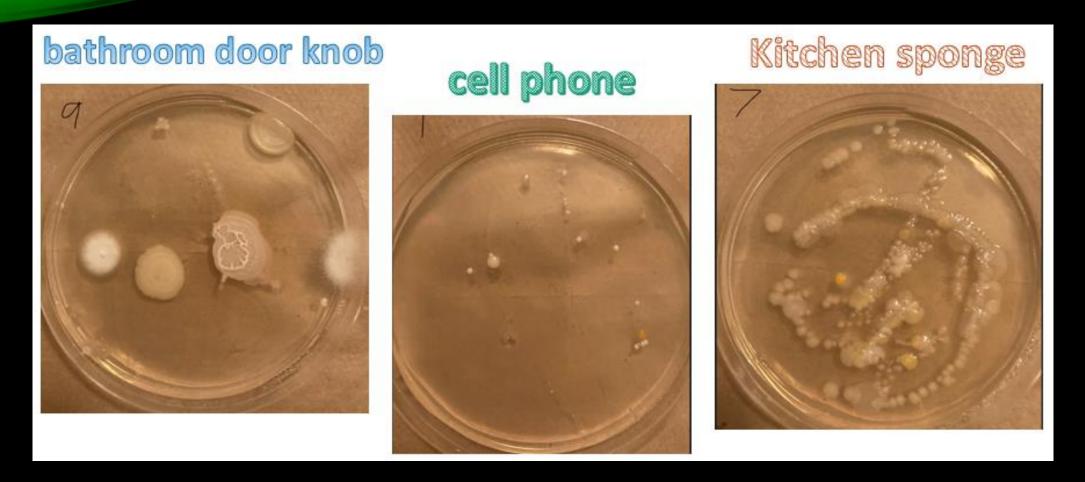
The dish sponge has the largest cluster of bacteria growing so far.

### The Control: Day 7

We did not see any bacteria growing on our control for day 7. We compared this petri dish to our other petri dishes that were used to test specific items.

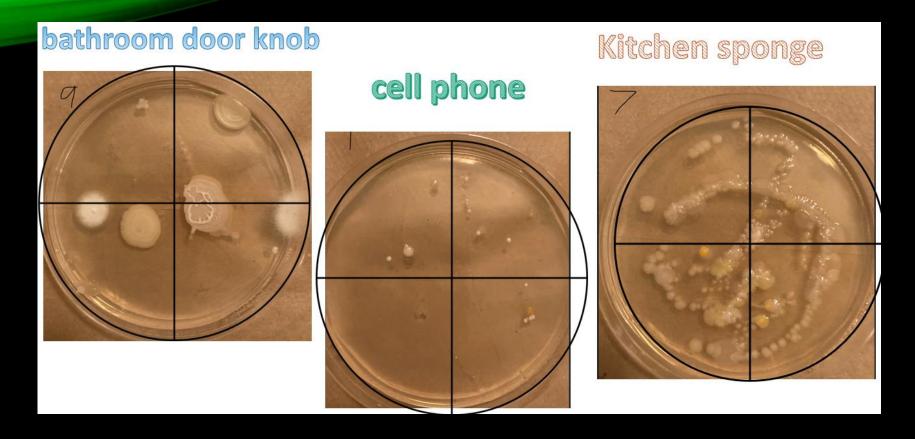


## Observation: Day 7



The dish sponge and bathroom door knob petri dishes both have a lot of bacteria growing on them.

#### **RESULTS:**



By cutting the petri dish into quarters and comparing, we were able to confirm that the dish sponge had the most bacteria growing on the petri dish. Our hypothesis was correct. By analyzing the bacteria on all three petri dishes, we learned that the bathroom door knob also has a lot of bacteria growing on it.

#### **CONCLUSION:**

This experiment is important because it can show people how important hand washing and sanitizing is. We learned that bacteria is all around us and that there are good types and bad types bacteria. We also learned that your kitchen sponge that you wash your dishes with can grow a lot of bacteria and that people should sanitize and change it out frequently. In addition, you should also wipe down items that are frequently used like your cell phone and the bathroom door handle to prevent bacteria from growing.





### 11 high-touch objects to disinfect



Cell phone



Computer keyboards



Doorknobs



Stick shifts



**Light switches** 



Computer mouse



Steering wheel



Remote controls







Refrigerator, faucet and toilet handles