



Our Hands Our Future – Global Handwashing Day Competition

October 15 is Global Handwashing Day, a global advocacy day dedicated to increasing awareness and understanding about the importance of handwashing with soap as an effective and affordable way to prevent diseases and save lives. Global Handwashing Day is an opportunity to design, test, and replicate creative ways to encourage people to wash their hands with soap at critical times.

For the third year running, United Purpose is running the world's largest Global Handwashing Day campaign in Nigeria, a country where diarrhoeal disease is a leading cause of child mortality. Poor sanitation is the reason that 124,000 children each year don't make their 5th birthday. But, the simple act of handwashing with soap is the most effective and affordable way to save lives, it reduces the risk of diarrhoea by 47%. To promote this message over the next few weeks we're training thousands of children in Nigeria to become Hygiene Heroes who will be sharing these messages in their schools and wider communities. Children in Nigeria will be singing and dancing to the [Wash Your Hands O song](#) (or with lyrics [here](#)) and making "Our Hands Our Future" hand print posters to display in school. We would LOVE you to get involved and show your support and solidarity by taking part in our HandsUP for Health competition which will run until the beginning of November. Winners will be announced on World Toilet Day on the 19nd of November.

Competition Guidelines

1. **Play Top Trumps, Travel the Global Toilet Trail and get your bums wiggling** to the Wash Your Hands O song as you learn about the important job that soap and toilets do to stop sickness spreading around schools
2. **Make an "Our Hands Our Future" poster** either as a class or individually which raises awareness about Global Handwashing Day and UP's campaign to improve health in Nigeria and around the world.
3. Either, **share them with our team and schools in Nigeria using social media**, tag United Purpose and use the hashtag #washyourhandso. Or, if your school doesn't have a social media account, send it directly to us at jo.davies@united-purpose.org for us to share with our team on your behalf.
4. The posters will then be **judged by our fantastic Global Handwashing Day campaign team in Nigeria** who will announce a series of bronze / silver and gold Hygiene Hero prizes (TBA).

I have attached the latest version of our Top Trumps and Global Handwashing Day games for your class to play. The children in Nigeria will be using paint to create vibrant hand print posters to display in their schools and on Thursday the 13th of October will be taking part in a mass handwashing with soap celebration which we will be sharing lots of pictures on social media. This is also an excellent opportunity reinforce the messages in your school that handwashing is THE best way to stop nasty germs like Runny Rodger and Colin Cold traveling around your school this

Out of poverty
winter!

United Purpose 

Formerly known
as Concern Universal





Follow the Campaign through our Twitter (@UnitedPurposeNigeria), Facebook (@UnitedPurposeNigeria) and Instagram (Unitedpurpose.nigeria) and use the hashtag #washyourhandso

Key Dates

29th September: Competition Opens

13th October: Mass handwashing day in Nigeria

October 15th: Global Handwashing Day

8th November: Competition Closes

19th November: Winners Announced

Facts and Stats

- It is estimated that 272 million school days are missed due to preventable illnesses such as diarrhoea.
- Poor sanitation is one of the leading cause of diarrhoeal disease in Nigeria and around the world.
- Handwashing with soap reduces the risk of diarrhoea by 47%
- 2.4 billion people lack access to a clean, safe toilet

More information

www.united-purpose.org

<https://globalhandwashing.org/global-handwashing-day/>

Contact

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