

CROSS CONTAMINATION ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE TEACHER

Give each group ten (10) sugar cubes per member. One of the cubes must have a small black dot on it (representing a contaminated food).

Tell students to create an award winning structure using all of the sugar cubes given to their group. They will have three (3) minutes to complete the task.

At the end of three (3) minutes compare the structures.

Tell students that one (1) of the cubes has a black dot, meaning that it is contaminated...in fact it contains Salmonella. Everything that it touches it contaminates. Tell students to find the black dot and to identify everything it touched. Throw away all the cubes that have been contaminated.

Have students show what they had to throw away.

Point out that if the person who touched the contaminated sugar cube didn't wash his or her hands after handling it and then touched other sugar cubes, those other sugar cubes are also contaminated. In addition, if the contaminated sugar cube had been sitting on the table, all of the cubes needed to be thrown away. Also, in a short time all of the sugar cubes would need to be thrown away because the sugar cubes touching the contaminated cubes would also be contaminated and they would contaminate all the other cubes. It is like dominoes.