

## Pass it On

In this activity you will conduct a simulation to show how a pathogen can be transmitted. Your fictional pathogen “Justin Bieberitis” causes sporadic dance moves, growth of hair (specifically bangs) and the constant need to say “I’m Sorry”. Unfortunately, someone in this class has contracted the disease but we don’t know who. This infectious disease can be transferred by shaking hands with an infected person.

### SAFETY:

- Be very careful while handling glassware
- **DO NOT SPILL OR DRINK ANY OF THE LIQUIDS IN THE TEST TUBES!!!!**
- **DO NOT SMELL ANY OF THE LIQUIDS DIRECTLY**
- If you do spill on your skin please wash your hands with soap and water.

### Materials

- Test tube filled with unknown clear liquid
- Medicine Dropper



### What we will do:

1. Collect one test tube of clear liquid and one medicine dropper from Ms. Hemingway (Only one glass with contain the “pathogen”)
2. Find a classmate and “shake hands”. This means you take one dropper full of liquid from your glass and place it into the other person’s glass. Your classmate will do the same.
3. Record the name of the person you interacted with. Try to interact not only with your friends but randomly.
4. Repeat this process with 4 different classmates and record their name.
5. When finished we will test the test tubes as a class to see who has been “infected”

	Name of Student
First Exchange	
Second Exchange	
Third Exchange	
Fourth Exchange	
Fifth Exchange	

### What did you find out?

1. Record how many students in the class were infected by the pathogen. Are you surprised about the result? Explain why.

2. By looking at your results and those of your classmates, try to determine which classmate was the original carrier. If you were infected indicate the pathway of infection.
3. After finding out who was the original carrier review the list of people you shook hands with. Did you shake hands with this person? If not, how did you get infected?
4. Explain how this activity demonstrates how an infectious disease is spread.
5. What are some ways to help decrease the spread of infectious diseases?