

# Biology Bricks: Activity

## Balloon Bacteria

How to show a test for infectious diseases? Try this simple trick, by using a balloon, some food colouring, a large sheet or tarpaulin, and a pencil or sharp object.

*You will need:*

- *Balloon*
- *Food colouring*
- *Water*
- *Large sheet/tarpaulin, something to cover the floor with*
- *Pencil or other sharp object (to pop the balloon)*

## Instructions

1. *Prior to the activity, assemble all the materials you will need – make sure you have a safe area outside either to do this, or use a dustsheet, tarpaulin, or something similar indoors.*
2. *Mix the food colouring in with the water, and place some in the balloon.*
3. *Blow the balloon up and tie it so the water cannot escape.*
4. *If working in groups, you can use the students to form a circle around one. The one in the middle holds the balloon in the air.*
5. *The balloon holder pops the balloon. This will release the water, and show a spread. This should then show how effective an infectious disease can be in transporting/transmitting around those nearby,*
6. *You can do this with one student, or with a group.*

