



National Education Association Health Information Network (NEA HIN) and The Clorox Company Offer Free Disinfecting Wipes to Teachers Nationwide

Program Helps Teachers Prepare For Flu Season as They Head Back to School

WASHINGTON, Sept. 1 - With worries about the flu season looming over the start of school this year, The National Education Association Health Information Network (NEA HIN) and The Clorox Company are teaming up to help teachers.

Starting September 2 through September 5, 2009, teachers nationwide can visit www.CloroxClassrooms.com and get a free coupon for Clorox® Disinfecting Wipes, while supplies last.

"With teachers' limited resources and heightened concerns about the H1N1 2009 flu virus this year, it is critical that they have the tools they need to implement simple prevention strategies," said Jerry Newberry, executive director, NEA HIN. "Healthy habits, like hand washing and disinfecting germ hot spots are important steps to help prevent the spread of germs that can cause illnesses, like flu."

Teachers can visit www.CloroxClassrooms.com and sign up to receive a free coupon available on the home page during the offer period (September 2 - September 5, 2009). At the Web site, teachers can also sign up to download a free "Clean Up the Classroom" kit, which includes lesson plans, games and other tools to help reduce the spread of germs at school.

"This year, more than ever, teachers across the country are reaching into their own pockets to purchase supplies for their classrooms," said Jon Balousek, vice president, Clorox Cleaning Division. "Through our partnership with NEA HIN, we hope we're able to help."

Kids keep close company in classrooms, sharing cell phones, books and school supplies, offering lots of opportunities to spread germs that can cause illness. In a joint recommendation to help prevent school closures and absenteeism this flu season, Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary, Kathleen Sebelius, recently stressed the importance of making sure kids stay healthy and in the classroom.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), illnesses caused by bacteria and viruses account for millions of lost school days each year. In fact, the majority of H1N1 virus cases earlier this year were in young people 5 to 24 years of age.

Teachers can use the following tips to help prevent the spread of the virus in their classroom:

- **Wash your hands:** Wash hands with warm water and soap for at least 20 seconds (the time it takes to sing the "Happy Birthday" song twice).
- **Do the Elbow Cough:** It may sound elementary for older kids but it's a good reminder for everyone to cough and sneeze into their elbow instead of their hands to help prevent the spread of germs by touch.
- **Disinfect Hot Spots:** School staff should routinely clean areas that students and staff touch often.
 - The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has advised that disinfectants effective against Influenza A are also effective against the H1N1 2009 virus.
- **Stay Home When Sick:** If they have flu-like symptoms, CDC recommends students stay home for at least 24 hours after they no longer show symptoms.
- **Separate Ill Students and Staff:** Create a separate room for students and staff who appear to have flu-like symptoms until they are able to go home.

For additional information about the National Education Association Health Information Network, please visit www.neahin.org.

About The National Education Association Health Information Network

As the nonprofit health affiliate of the National Education Association, the NEA Health Information Network (NEA HIN) provides health and safety information, training and services to 3.2 million educational employees and the more than 43 million students they serve. Since its inception, NEA HIN has addressed numerous health and safety related issues that affect NEA members and students, including chronic diseases such as diabetes and obesity, HIV/AIDS, substance abuse, breast and cervical cancer, teen pregnancy, mental wellness, physical activity and nutrition, school safety, and school environmental quality,

including asthma and indoor air quality. As new health and safety issues arise, NEA HIN develops initiatives to address them, always with an eye to selecting those topics that are responsive to the expressed interests and concerns of NEA members. For more information about NEA HIN, visit www.neahin.org/index.html

About The Clorox Company

The Clorox Company is a leading manufacturer and marketer of consumer products with fiscal year 2008 revenues of \$5.2 billion. With 8,300 employees worldwide, the company manufactures products in two dozen countries and markets them in more than 100 countries. For more information about Clorox, visit www.TheCloroxCompany.com.

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