

Learning by Ear – Hygiene: How to avoid diarrhoea

Episode 06 “Wash Hands”

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Scene	Characters	
1	1. SAM	SAM – 17, m. EDITH – 40, f. MARIA – 43, f.
	2. CHEMU	
	3. EDITH	
	4. MARIA	
2	1. SAM	EDDI– 36, m. DR SALLY – 34, f. CHEMU – 15, f.
	2. CHEMU	
	3. EDITH	
	4. MARIA	
3	1. SAM	GROUP OF STUDENTS – all male
	2. CHEMU	
4	1. SAM	NARRATOR
	2. EDDI	
	3. EDITH	
	4. CHEMU	
	5. NARRATOR	
5	6. TEACHER	
	GRACE	

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	7. SAM	
	8. CHEMU	
	9. EDDI	
	10. GROUP OF STUDENTS	
	11. NARRATOR	

INTRO

MUSIC: THEME MUSIC

01. NARRATOR HELLO AND WELCOME TO EPISODE SIX OF OUR “LEARNING BY EAR” SERIES ON HYGIENE AND DIARRHOEA. IN THE LAST EPISODE, SAM AND HIS FAMILY AND FAMILY FRIENDS LEARNT OF YET ANOTHER COMMON CAUSE OF DIARRHOEA - THE INTESTINAL WORM. THEY ALSO WITNESSED THE VARIOUS WAYS IN WHICH DRINKING WATER CAN BE CONTAMINATED. IN THIS EPISODE THEY BEGIN TO LEARN IMPROVED METHODS TO MANAGE THEIR WATER; BOTH AT ITS SOURCE AND HOW IT IS USED – AND THE WORD IS SPREAD IN A UNIQUE MODERN WAY. BUT HEAR FOR YOURSELF...

SCENE 1: EDITH’S HOME

02. SFX: SOUNDS OF POTS AND PANS. A FIRE IS CRACKING.

03. MARIA Edith, I am so hungry I could eat a horse.

- 04. EDITH** They don't have horses around here, Maria, my dear neighbour. Maybe a donkey.
- 05. MARIA/EDITH** **(both laugh heartily)**
- 06. MARIA** **(still laughing)** I know, you know what I mean. Give me that tomato. I will eat that while I wait for your food to cook. Good heavens, why is it taking so long? Sam, pass me a tomato from that bag.
- 07. SAM** Do you want a very ripe one or and a not so ripe one?
- 08. EDITH** Just give her a tomato!
- 09. CHEMU** But we must wash it first.
- 10. MARIA** Chemu, you are sitting right next to the bag of tomatoes, and I am hungry. Why does eating one small tomato have to be an academic challenge. Be a good daughter and give me that tomato.
- 11. SAM** We have to wash it. I will only take a minute.
- 12. MARIA** **(angry)** Give me that tomato!
- 13. CHEMU** But we have to wash it!
- 14. MARIA** Tomato, now!

- 15. EDITH** (angry) Can someone please give her the tomato! Now!!
- 16. SAM** (calmly) Auntie Maria, remember what I did to your garden when I had that diarrhoea. You want to eat all that on this unwashed tomato.
- 17. MARIA** Ooooh no... What are you waiting for, wash and dry the tomato.. now.. wash it. Were you going to give it to me unwashed? With all those germs ready to enter my stomach... How dare you?

BRIDGE MUSIC

SCENE 2: EDITH'S HOME LATER

- 18. SFX: SOUNDS OF CUTLERY AND CROCKERY.**
- 19. EDITH** Sam, please pass this food to Maria.
- 20. MARIA** (surprised) Oh, Edith, you still have some more food in your pot. Can you top me up a little bit more? I told you I was starving.
- 21. EDITH** Ok Maria. One thing I love about you my friend is your honesty.
- 22. SAM** Here is your food.

- 23. MARIA** Thank you Sam. You are right Edith, when one is hungry, why hide it? I've been starving all day. Forgive me if I do not wait for you. I'm going ahead and digging in with my fingers immediately.
- 24. CHEMU/SAM** Stop!! Don't!
- 25. EDITH** Now what? Children, what has got into your heads? First she could not have a tomato, now you do not want her to dig into her food...
- 26. SAM** Not with her hands, her fingers Mother!
- 27. MARIA** **(very angry)** Children, I will eat my food any way I want. Now, can you all stop yelling and leave me to enjoy this scrumptious meal?
- 28. SAM** You should wash your hands before you eat.
- 29. MARIA** Not again...
- 30. SAM** You don't want to get sick like I was.
- 31. CHEMU** **(Pleading)** Please, Mother, you do not want bad things to happen to you like it did to Baby Fatu... please Mum. I don't want you to die.
- 32. EDITH** Maria, now see what you have done to your daughter. She is now about to burst into tears. Wash your hands, Maria.

- 33. MARIA** Why me? I am not the only one who has been touching things around here. Or are you saying I am the dirty one.
- 34. CHEMU** No mother, it has nothing to do with being dirty. Bacteria are everywhere; surfaces, people's hands that we shake, things we pick up from the floor. Everywhere. Isn't that right, Sam?
- 35. SAM** Imagine all the things I touched or places I put my clothes when I was sick?
- 36. MARIA** If I think about that, I should leave this house now and never come back.
- 37. EDITH** Sam, are you trying to scare my best friend?
- 38. CHEMU** No, we don't want to scare anyone. We just love you all so much and we want you all to stay healthy.
- 39. EDITH** Can you all eat up your food. It's getting cold.
- 40. SAM** Chemu, bring over that water basin and the soap and we will wash our hands.

41. NARRATOR WELL, IT SEEMS, IT'S THE ADULTS WHO HAVE TO LEARN MORE HERE THAN THE CHILDREN. SAM AND CHEMU REALLY LEARNT THEIR LESSON AFTER DIARRHOEA HAS CAME TO VISIT EDITH'S HOUSE AND TOOK AWAY LITTLE BABY FATU. BUT IT IS NOT ONLY THEIR FAMILIES THEY ARE WORRIED ABOUT. AFTER LUNCH THEY WENT FOR A LITTLE WALK...

SCENE 3: FOOT PATH

42. SFX NATURAL SOUNDS. TWO PAIRS OF FEET WALKING.

43. CHEMU (raps)

*Wash your hands
Only washed hands
should be used,
to eat.
Careless people,
Don't wash their hands
after visiting the toilet.
Keep healthy.
Wash your hands.*

Ok, now you rap after me and do it properly

*Wash your hands
Only washed hands
should be used,
to eat.*

44. SAM (Raps like he is reading words)

*Wash your hands
Only washed hand*

45. CHEMU Stop! Stop! You have no rhythm!!

46. SAM At least I got the words right! I promise I will get the rhythm. Later, just not now..

47. CHEMU I will not give you a break until you can do it right.

48. SAM Promise! I will learn. Now, how about I race you to that tree over there.

49. CHEMU Come on.. .. OK.... on your marks...

50. SFX: FEET RUN OFF VERY FAST

51. CHEMU Ahaa.. you cheat.. you cheated...

52. SFX: FOOTSTEPS STOP.

53. SAM **(From a distance)** I have to show off that my energy is back. Can't wait for the next school race!

- 54. CHEMU** Let's hope you win.
- 55. SAM** Hope, did you say hope? Come here and I will teach you a lesson!
- 56. CHEMU** **(giggling uncontrollably)** Stop it Sam, stop it.. stoppppp stopp... ok ok. You will win, you will win for certain.
- 57. SAM** Ok, I'll stop
- 58. CHEMU** Ok, but Sam, I was thinking, we could teach this song to all the students at the school. And it will remind them to always wash their hands.
- 59. SAM** Then, they will not get diarrhoea, like I did.
- 60. CHEMU** Yes, if they wash their hands often, then, they will not get sick and miss school like you did or... you know...
- 61. SAM** Or die like my baby sister Fatu.
- 62. CHEMU** **(sadly)** Yes, we must teach them. Let's talk to our teacher tomorrow.
- 63. SAM** Yes, let's.. now I will beat you to the end of the road...
- 64. SFX RUNNING FEET – AWAY**

65. SAM No.. no.. don't run yet... Chemu that is not fair....

BRIDGE MUSIC

66. NARRATOR HOW NICE OF SAM AND CHEMU. AS A SURVIVOR, SAM IS GOING TO USE HIS FIRST HAND EXPERIENCE TO INFORM OTHER TEENAGERS ABOUT DIARRHOEA. AND IF THEY HAVE TO DO IT IN A FORM THAT DRAWS AWAKES THE OTHER CHILDREN'S INTEREST, LIKE AS A RAP SONG, THEN THEY WILL.

SCENE 4: EDITH'S HOME

67. EDDI I promised I would check on the family more regularly. I have allowed myself to get too distracted by the medical community work, but what is more important than the health of one's own family?

68. EDITH Ah, Eddi, and we are so grateful.

69. EDDI So, how are you getting on at school, Sam?

70. SAM I am doing ok, Uncle Eddi, but I had so much work to catch up on.

- 71. EDDI** You were away from school for how long?
Two weeks?
- 72. CHEMU** He missed exactly 17 days of school.
- 73. EDITH** Chemu, you have to let your friend answer for
himself.
- 74. SAM** About three weeks, Uncle. But But....
- 75. EDDI** What's wrong?
- 76. SAM** Now that I have had diarrhoea and I know
how one gets it, I am worried that the students
will be getting diarrhoea very often.
- 77. EDDI** Why do you think that?
- 78. SAM** They do not wash their hands and ... and our
latrines are...
- 79. CHEMU** The latrines are dirty and some students do
not wash their hands after using them.
- 80. EDDI** I could come to your school and talk to them.
That's also part of my job as a community
worker...
- 81. CHEMU** That will be so, so, cool
- 82. SAM** Uncle Eddi, please come and help us.
- BRIDGE MUSIC**

83. NARRATOR IT SEEMS, THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR HYGIENIC HABITS IS NOT LIMITED TO THE CHILDREN’S HOME. THEY MUST ALSO MAKE SURE THAT THEIR FRIENDS AT SCHOOL HAVE THE SAME KNOWLEDGE THAT THEY HAVE. SO, NEXT DAY, AT SAM’S CLASS...

SCENE 5: SECONDARY SCHOOL

84. Teacher Grace Morning class! May I introduce to you Sam’s uncle who is a Health Community Officer. He will talk to us today about hygiene and how to avoid diarrhoea. Welcome!

85. STUDENTS: CLAPPING

86. SAM Also, please welcome my family friend Chemu who attends the girls school next door. Most of you know her.

87. STUDENTS: CHEEKY WHISTLING

88. EDDI Thank you very much Teacher Grace and my nephew Sam and his friend Chemu for inviting me. As you know, Sam was away from school for nearly three weeks. He was suffering from diarrhoea. Because of his sickness we learnt a lot, and we want to share that with you.

First, Sam and Chemu have a song to teach you. It is a song about washing our hands.
Let's listen to them singing.

89. STUDENTS: ENTHUSIASTIC CLAPPING

90. SAM/CHEMU (singing beautifully)

*Wash your hands.
Only washed hands
should be used
to eat.
Careless people
Don't wash their hands
after visiting the toilet.
Keep healthy.
Wash your hands.*

91. EDDI Well done! That was great. Let's give them another round of applause.

92. STUDENTS ENTHUSIASTIC CLAPPING

93. EDDI Sam and Chemu, I want you to teach all the students to sing this song. Will you do that for me?

94. SAM Yes! Uncle Eddi.

95. CHEMU **But** uncle Eddi, we do not sing. We rap!!

96. STUDENTS **CLAPPING AND WHISTLING.**

97. EDDI

I'm glad you are excited. Let's sing... oh rap.
Remember we should wash our hands every
time we go to the toilet and every time before
eating. Now, if you add that all up, that means
you have to wash your hands more than five
times a day.. When you sing... ahm... rap that
song, it will remind you that you must wash
your hands.

Let's rap!

98. SAM/CHEMU/STUDENTS (fade out)

*Wash your hands.
Only washed hands
should be used
to eat.
Careless people
Don't wash their hands
after visiting the toilet.
Keep healthy.
Wash your hands.*

BRIDGE MUSIC

OUTRO

99. NARRATOR WELL, WELL, IT LOOKS LIKE PRACTISING GOOD HYGIENE DOES NOT HAVE TO BE BORING. IT CAN BE FUN TOO! AND IT WOULD SEEM THAT INFECTIONS CAN BE AVOIDED IF THE PEOPLE IN THE COMMUNITY JUST TOOK CARE OF EACH OTHER.

TUNE IN TO THE NEXT EPISODE OF 'LEARNING BY EAR' TO LEARN MORE.

YOU CAN ALSO VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT www.dw-world.de/lbe: LISTEN TO OTHER EPISODES AND STORIES AND SEND US YOUR COMMENTS!

BUT FOR NOW: GOODBYE!