



## FANCY FOOTWORK **BOOT ART**

### Learning objectives

- discover that pathogens can be tracked easily from one place to another on our clothing, shoes, or boots, and that it is necessary to take precautions in order to reduce this risk
- gain a deeper understanding of indirect disease transmission

### Materials

- large roll of paper or several sheets of bristol board
- plastic boot covers or plastic bags
- paint
- shallow pans

### Directions

- 1 Set the paper out on the floor in a large open space. If this activity is being done indoors, it may be advisable to spread old newspaper on the floor around the activity area.
- 2 Put plastic boot covers or plastic bags on over shoes.
- 3 Step in some paint.
- 4 Walk around on the paper that has been set out on the floor and observe the effect.
- 5 Repeat steps 3 and 4.



continued...



## Variation

- Think of some common visitors to farms and assign these roles to the participants (e.g., farm employees, veterinarians, neighbours, suppliers, maintenance workers).
- Designate each role a specific paint colour (e.g., employees are purple, suppliers are green, etc.).
- Observe the effects as the colours are tracked around and mixed together on the paper; this represents the potential for disease transmission if steps are not taken to reduce the risk of transferring pathogens from one farm to another.

### ! Did you notice that...

- the paint is tracked just as pathogens can be tracked unknowingly onto farms on the soles of boots or shoes.
- by covering footwear before entering a farm, it is possible to avoid tracking in anything unwanted or harmful.

