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*Icky! Bacteria!*

The purpose of this experiment is to figure out which household item, the keyboard, the doorknob, the telephone, the toilet seat, or the shoe sole, contains the most bacteria. Many people get sick through bacteria in household items, such as phones, doorknobs, and many other items. This experiment is important, because many different types of bacteria cause different diseases and sicknesses. If people knew which household item contains the most bacteria, then those people may find a way to get rid of the bacteria on it. To conduct this investigation, nutrient agar plates are needed. Each household item was swabbed with its own cotton swab. The cotton swab was then swabbed on the agar side of each plate for each household item. The plates were in a fume hood at room temperature. They remained there, untouched, for five days. On the fifth day, the colonies were counted for each plate and recorded. The data collected through the experiment showed that the shoe sole contained the most bacteria, with 64 colonies, and the doorknob surprisingly contained the least bacteria, with 21 colonies. The keyboard contained 51 bacteria colonies, the telephone contained 35 bacteria colonies, and the toilet seat contained 42 bacteria colonies. The data collected through the experiment didn't conclusively support my hypothesis because the shoe sole contained the most bacteria, while the doorknob contained the least bacteria.