

## Clean and green soap



# What is soap?

- Salt of a fatty acid
- A variety of cleansing and lubricating products produced from this substance
- Used for washing, bathing and cleaning
- Soaps act as surfactants, emulsifying oils (breaking them into smaller drops) to enable them to be carried away by water



# How did people get clean?

- Match the cleaning product to the era



# By the 19<sup>th</sup> Century

- Soap became more commonly used.

- 19<sup>th</sup> Century soap recipe:

‘Allow sixteen pounds of grease and potash, each, for a barrel of soap. The grease should be neither mouldy nor wormy. Cut the grease into pieces of one or two ounces and put it in a tight barrel with the potash. Then pour in two pailsful of either rain or spring water...Add a pailful of soft water every day until the barrel is half full, stirring it well every day...It is best to keep it three or four months before using’.



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# Why 19<sup>th</sup> Century soap was green

- It used naturally derived ingredients
- Production didn't use lots of energy
- It didn't travel far
- The packaging was eco-friendly



# How was soap 'improved' on?

- Liquid soap was invented in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century but it wasn't until the 1900s that companies began to develop and sell liquid soaps.
- Now, liquid soaps are more popular than bar soaps.



# Liquid soaps vs bar soaps

Compare and contrast the:

- Effect on the skin
- Ingredients
- Bacteria killing properties
- Effect on the environment
- Convenience

And the winner is?



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# Now, make your own!



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