

TICKS

Wear disposable gloves when exposed to blood and other body fluids.

Wash the bite area gently with soap and water before attempting removal.

Students should be inspected for ticks after time in woods or brush. Ticks may carry serious infections and must be completely removed. **Do NOT** handle ticks with bare hands.

- There are a variety of tools that can be used to remove a tick.
- The key is to grasp the tick as close to the skin surface as possible, be careful to not squeeze the tick.
- Pull upward with steady, even pressure.
- **Do NOT** twist or jerk the tick as the mouth parts may break off.
- It is important to remove the ENTIRE tick.
- Take care not to squeeze, crush, or puncture the body of the tick as its fluids may carry infection.
- Never use petroleum jelly or a hot match to kill and remove a tick. These methods don't get the tick off the skin, and can cause the insect to burrow deeper and release more saliva (which increases the chances of disease transmission).

- Place tick in plastic bag incase parent/guardian wants to have the tick identified.
- Record the date and location of the tick bite.

- After removal, wash the area of the body where the tick was, thoroughly with soap and water.
- Wash your hands.
- Apply a bandage.

Contact responsible school authority & parent/guardian. Student may remain in school. Send tick home with student.

Document care provided.