

DATE

Dear Parent or Guardian,

I am writing to let you know that a case of head lice have been identified in **(may use teacher's name to personalize more or grade level)** your child's class. Lice outbreaks are very common among school children. Head lice do not carry any disease, and their presence does not indicate a lack of cleanliness. We would like to give you some information that will be helpful to you in keeping your child free of lice and help the school in eradicating the problem.

Some things you may do to help are:

(Lice Illustration)



1. Examine your child every day for the next two weeks for lice or nits, using a bright light or sunlight. Lice are crawling insects, about the size of a sesame seed, usually found at the nape of the neck and behind the ears. They do not jump or fly, but can move very quickly. Nits are the eggs, which are laid close to the scalp and attached firmly to the hair shaft. They are usually light colored and cannot be easily brushed or flicked out. You will often find nits, and not live lice. Often children will complain of itching.
2. If lice or nits are found:
 - Notify the school.
 - Do not let your child attend school until treatment is completed (over the counter lice shampoos, homeopathic treatment or nit picking).
 - Comb out nits with a fine tooth stainless steel comb.
 - Consult with your child's healthcare provider, health center, or pharmacist for treatment instructions.
3. If head lice or nits are not found:
 - **Continue to examine your child's hair every day for the next two weeks.**
 - Do not begin any special treatment. Using chemical lice treatments has not been proven to be preventative, and is not recommended.
 - Instruct your child **NOT** to share personal items such as combs, brushes, scarves, hats or coats with other children. Lice are spread by contact; they do not jump from one person to the next.

(Enter school's name) is responding and will check other students in the classroom as deemed appropriate. We have removed or bagged any and all of the following items: stuffed animals, throw rugs, furniture for a period of time and the teacher will have the students put their jackets in their book bags to help decrease the risk of transmission from item to item.

I hope this information will be helpful in keeping your child free of this problem. If you have further questions concerning head lice, please call your child's healthcare provider or the Cluster Nurse, _____ at _____.

Signature of Principal