



School Health Services

Tick Protocol:

1. Student suspected to have a tick will report to the health office.
2. School nurse will remove tick and notify parent.
3. Save the tick in a zip lock bag. Give the tick to a parent for possible identification if student becomes ill.
4. Document the site and date of tick removal and treatment given.
5. Provide information to parent or refer to Health Services website for additional information: Suggested handout "Facts about Tick-Borne Disease in Utah" (UDOH)
6. Encourage parent to follow up with health care provider as needed and to watch for signs and symptoms of tick-associated diseases for 30 days.

Tick Removal Steps:

1. Use a pair of fine-tipped tweezers to grasp the tick as close to the skin surface as possible.
2. Pull the tick straight upward with steady, even pressure. This should remove the tick with mouthparts intact.
3. Do not twist, jerk, squeeze, crush, or puncture the body of tick; this can cause the mouthparts to break off and remain in the skin. If this happens remove the mouthparts with tweezers. If you are unable to remove the mouth easily with clean tweezers, leave it alone and let the skin heal.
4. After removing the tick, disinfect the area of the bite with rubbing alcohol.
5. Never crush a tick with your fingers. Dispose of a live tick by putting it in alcohol, placing it in a sealed bag/container.

References:

Facts about Tick-Borne Disease, UDOH.

http://health.utah.gov/epi/diseases/ehrlichiosis/tick_brochure.pdf

Http://health.utah.gov/epi/diseases/tickborne_disease/plan/TickborneDisease-Plan101207.pdf

<https://schoolnursing101.com/pathogens/parasites/ticks/>

<http://www.cdc.gov/ticks/diseases>

www.cdc.gov/ticks/removing_a_tick.html