

Don't Get Sick—Beware of Ticks

Read the passage and answer the questions.

Ticks are so small if you have one on your body, you might not notice it at first. They live where there are bushes, brambles, and long grass. When an animal, maybe a dog, mouse, or deer, goes by, the tick latches on and climbs up. It finds a good place to attach itself, bites the animal, and starts to drink its blood. It does it with people too. It can stay on for days, until it's full of blood. Then it just drops off. If you play outdoors or with animals, you should check for ticks afterwards because you may not feel it bite. They hide in all sorts of places, such as your hair or behind your knees, and they can crawl under your clothes.

Tell your parents or teacher if you get a tick on your body. They will use tweezers to pull it off. Don't try to pull it off yourself. Afterwards, wash with soap and water or disinfectant. When you are outdoors, use insect repellent and keep away from places where ticks live. Shower or bathe when you come inside. Ask your mom or dad to check that you don't have any ticks on you.

If you get bitten by a tick, you may get a fever or skin rash. You might even feel really tired. See a doctor in case you need medicine.

1. Where do ticks live?
2. What kind of environment do they prefer?
3. Name some animals that ticks may climb on.
4. What do they eat?
5. Where do ticks hide?
6. Should you remove ticks from your body using your hands?
7. Who should you ask to check you for ticks?
8. How can you stop ticks from biting you?
9. How could you feel if you get bitten by a tick?