Dear Parent or Guardian:

As your child's school nurse, I want to make you aware of a "pesky" situation that impacts schools around the country, often as the school year begins. Pediculosis, or head lice, is a condition that each year affects approximately 12 million children between the ages of 3 and 12 years of age, and about 1 in every 100 elementary school children. Head lice are parasites that are generally found on the scan around the ears, and at the back of the neck. The adult louse is about the size of a sesame seed, are be the color of your child's hair. Eggs, or nits, are smaller and silver in color. They are oval in shape cannot be easily removed from hair shaft.

Head lice are not a sign of poor hygiene and they do notisease pried from one child to another can occur during direct head to head contact or by sharing of personal items such as comboushes, caps or helmets. Please tell your child not to share any of these items at school. Many teatell the students to put their hats and gloves in the sleeves of their coats for safe keeping.

The most common symptom of head lice is itching and head scratching, particularly at night. Red bit marks or sores may also be noticed on the scalp. If you suspected that be and you cannot determine if it is head tineact your healthcare provider for further instructions.

days or placed in a hot dryer for 30 minutes to kill the lice.

On the back of this page I have attached a chart with common myths and facts for your review. you find it help fas we work together during the school year. Please check your child at home ever week for lice as this will help us in identifying and treating any cases during Mbeeschool year. information about lice and treatment can be found at: http://www.cgov/parasites/lice/public/index.html

My goal as school nurse is to provide you with the information you need to safeguard your child health, and ensure that his or her education is not disrupted, but remains the most positive experience possible. I hopped find this information useful, and I send best wishes to your child for a rewarding school year.

Central Bucks School District Certified School Nurses

Actual size of the three lice forms coontroparpenny (Photo credit: CDC)

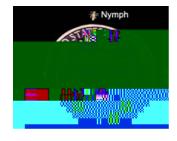


Table 1. Lice 101/ertything You Really Didn't Want to Know About Lice

Definitions						
Infestation = having an insect present, in this case, in your head						
Lice = more than one louse						
Louse = small insect that lives on the scalp						
Nits = eggs, dead or alive, of a louse						
Parasite = an organism that lives off another, in this case, lice surviving on the blood of hu						
Pediculosis = having an infestation of lice						
Myths	Truths					
Lice are easy to get.	Lice are spread only by Heard contact. They are much hard					
	get than a cold, flu, ear infection, pink eye, strep throat, food	poisoning				
	or impetigo.					
You can get lice from your de Liceare species specific. You can get human lice only from an						
guinea pig, or other animal.	human. You cannot get another animal's lice.					
Lice are often passed via hat	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·					
helmets.	common modes of transmission.					
School is a common place for	School is a VERY RARE source of transmission. Much more confice family members, overnight guests, and playmates who spent					
transmission.						
trunsimission.	amount of time together.					
	Hygiene makes saddutely no difference. Lice actually like clean					
Poor hygiene contributes to	iceore than dirty. You get lice by close personal contact with	someone				
	else who has lice, not by being dirty.					
Lice can jump or fly from one	Lice can only crawl. They can neithorjump. They must crawl					
person to another. from one person to another.						
Any nits left in the hair can c Any nits farther away than one quarter inch to half an inch o						
lice to come back.	shaft are ALREADY HATCHED and pose no risk to others.					