



Our aim is to provide information that will help you understand your child's injury and enable the appropriate after-care.

Useful numbers:

NHS 111 - 24hr advice line

Practice Plus (Brighton walk-in center/GP service)

0333 321 0946

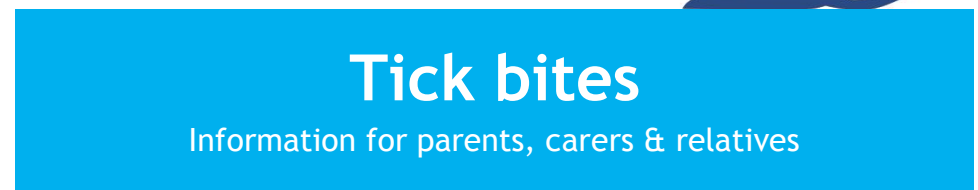
8am/8pm - 7 days a week



Disclaimer: The information in this leaflet is for guidance purposes only and is in no way intended to replace professional clinical advice by a qualified practitioner.

Authors: Darren Baldwin, Miki Lazner and Jason Gray.

Reference no. 951 - Publish Date: October 2018 - Review Date: October 2020



What is a tick?

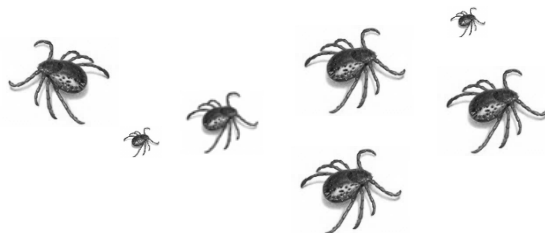
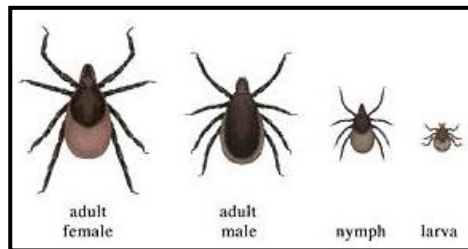
Ticks are external parasites called **arthropods** and are related to spiders. They feed on blood sucked from humans or animals and can be as small as a sesame seed.

If you find a tick **DON'T PANIC!**

Even if you are bitten by a tick it is extremely unlikely you will become ill because **NOT ALL TICKS CARRY DISEASES.**

Ticks can be found across the country in woodland, fields, moors, parks and even gardens. They cannot jump or fly but can crawl and often fall from leaves or animals onto humans.

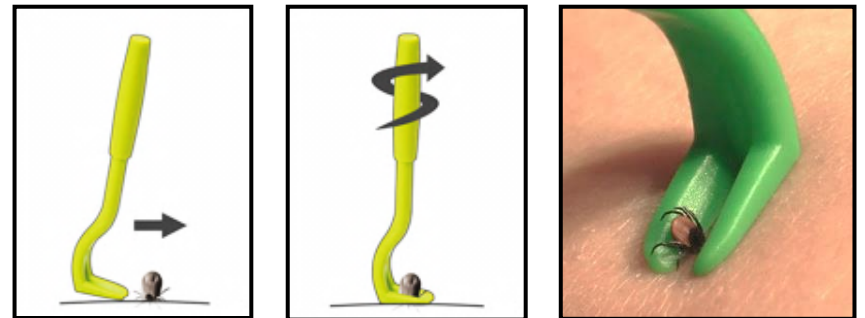
It is wise to check for ticks if you've been around these areas; 60% of tick bites in children are above the waistline, usually neck and head.



How do I remove a tick?

The best and safest way to remove a tick is with a special tool that hooks underneath its body. 'Tick removers' can be bought at any pharmacy; you can then safely remove the tick at home.

There is no need to bring your child to the Children's Emergency Department.



Points to remember

- **DO NOT** pull the tick
- **DO NOT** squeeze the tick
- **DO NOT** burn the tick
- **DO NOT** put chemicals on the tick
- **DO NOT** cover the tick in Vaseline or creams

Make sure the tick is removed as quickly as possible.

If your child gets a circular 'bulls-eye' rash around the area of the bite, a fever or feels ill in the first six weeks or so after a tick bite, take them to see your doctor straight away.