

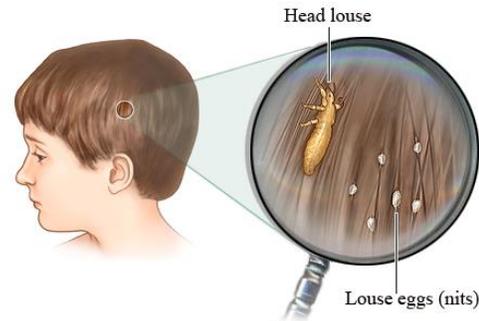
# Head Lice 101

Head lice is a condition that each year affects 6 to 12 million children between 3 and 12 years of age, and about 1 in every 100 elementary school children. Head lice are generally found on the scalp, around the ears, and at the back of the neck. The adult louse is about the size of a sesame seed and can be the color of your child's hair. Eggs, or nits, are smaller and silver in color.

Lice are not a sign of poor hygiene and they do not transmit disease. Spread from one child to another can occur during direct head to head (or hair) contact and from the shared use of personal items such as brushes, combs, hair ties, or hats.

## Symptoms of Infestation:

- Itching, the most common symptom, is caused by an allergic reaction to saliva left behind when a louse bites the scalp.
- The appearance of nits (lice eggs) in the hair near the scalp. Nits are shaped like a rain drop and attach tightly to the hair. They will not move very easily. Their color ranges from translucent to brown. Sometimes they will appear off-white.
- Sores or broken skin behind the ears or at the base of the neck, caused by scratching lice bites.



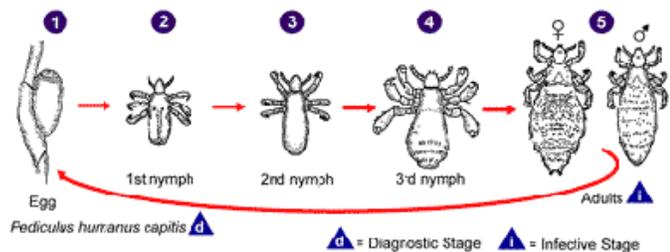
WebMD Medical Reference from Healthwise

## In the Event of Infestation:

- Have the infected person examined to ensure that head lice is present. Other family members may also be examined as a precaution.
- Manually remove all lice and nits from the hair using a fine toothed comb. Shampooing alone will not kill and remove lice.
- Contact a professional lice removal service to ease any frustrations or apprehension that may arise.
- Notify your school, day care, family members and close friends.
- Wash or change bed linens, combs, brushes and hair accessories.
- Hair accessories and toys that cannot be washed may be bagged and set aside for 48 hours to ensure the elimination of any live lice.
- Car seats and furniture that have been in contact with the infested person in the last 24 hours may be lightly vacuumed.
- After treatment, inspect damp hair daily for any remaining lice or nits using a fine toothed comb.
- Follow up with your professional lice removal service one week after the initial treatment.

## Facts:

- Lice do not fly or jump. They crawl.
- Without human blood, a louse will die within 48 hours.
- All socio-economic groups and races are susceptible to lice.
- Lice only attach to human heads and cannot live on a nonhuman host.
- Lice are just as likely to inhabit clean hair as they are dirty hair.



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention



## Lice Treatment Solutions of Clear Lake

Professional Lice Removal and Prevention

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