[Insert Organization/School Name]

Preventing Tick and Mosquito bites

# Prevention and tick removal

1. Children will be given age-appropriate lessons about ticks and mosquitoes, tick- and mosquito-borne diseases, and methods of prevention and removal.
2. Children will be encouraged to wear long sleeved shirts and pants when spending time outdoors, particularly at dawn and dusk.
3. Parents are asked to provide hiking clothes, such as long pants and long socks, in their child's extra clothes bag, if applicable, as well as a separate storage bag for the hiking clothes.
4. Parents are asked to spray children with insect repellent (after applying sunscreen) with between 20%-30% DEET before they drop their children off. [OPTIONAL: Parents are also asked to send in a bottle of insect repellent, labelled with the child’s name, so it can be re-applied throughout the day.]
5. Children should have sneakers or boots at school at all times to be worn during hikes.
6. After time spent outdoors, children will be encouraged to check each other for ticks, especially in areas behind the knees and the back of the neck. [INSERT TEACHER’S NAME/STAFF] will inform parents when the children have been in the woods or in a field area so that further checks may be done at home.
7. Removal of a tick within 24-36 hours of attachment can help prevent disease transmission. If a tick is discovered unattached on a child, we will remove it promptly and discard it. If we find a tick attached to the skin, we will remove it using the CDC recommendations as follows. We will:

• Use a tick removal instrument to grasp the tick as close to the skins surface as possible.

• Pull upward with steady, even pressure.

• Thoroughly clean the bite area with rubbing alcohol or soap and water after removing the tick.

1. If a tick is removed, the parent will be notified and [the tick will be put into a plastic bag or taped onto a card, labeled with the date, time and place, and sent home.] ***[OR]*** [the tick will be kept in the child’s file and an email or verbal notice will be sent to parents.] A log is kept of ticks found and removed. Visit the Rhode Island Department of Health’s web pages at <http://health.ri.gov/ticks> and <http://health.ri.gov/mosquito> for more information.
2. [School/Organization] will empty and scrub, turn over, cover, or throw out items that hold water to stop mosquitoes from laying eggs on school property.