



LICE ADVICE

Fact vs. myth



Lice Jump and fly

MYTH

FACT: THEY DO NOT JUMP, THEY DO NOT FLY. THEY HAVE TO CRAWL.



Lice can only spread from head to head.

MYTH

FACT: PERSONAL CONTACT WITH AN ITEM OF AN INFECTED PERSON CAN SPREAD IT. CHILDREN SHOULD BE TAUGHT NOT TO SHARE COMBS, PILLOWS, HATS OR BED SHEETS WITH OTHER CHILDREN.



Lice prefer dirty hair

MYTH

FACT: THEY GRAVITATE TO CLEAN HAIR THAT ALLOWS THEM TO BETTER ATTACH.

LICE NITS ARE THE EGGS OF GROWN LICE.

LICE LAY NITS ON THE HAIR SHAFT ABOUT AN INCH UP FROM THE SCALP. THE REMOVAL OF NITS IS AN IMPORTANT PART OF LICE TREATMENT.




Kids can only get lice at school.

MYTH



FACT: LICE IS READILY SPREAD WHEN CHILDREN CONGREGATE IN LARGE GROUPS. SO TAKE PRECAUTION NOT ONLY AT SCHOOL, BUT CAMPS AND SLEEPOVERS.



Parents can help avoid lice by routinely checking a child's head regardless of the season. Treatment time can often be shortened when it is caught right away. Dr. Davis-Brown also cautions parents that while there are prescription medications for lice, a child's age should be carefully considered before using them.

For more information on head lice, visit www.premierhealthnet.com/familyhealth

SOURCES: Susan Davis-Brown, MD, Brookville Family Care; American Academy of Dermatologists (AAD)

