

SCABIES- is caused by tiny mites that live under the skin.

- **SYMPTOMS:** Your child may itch the most at night. Look for a rash of pink bumps or tiny blisters. Sometimes, you can only see scratch marks. Common locations for the rash and itching are between fingers, around wrists and elbows, and armpits. Infants and young children may be infested on head, neck, palms and bottoms of feet. People without previous exposure may develop symptoms in 2 to 6 weeks. People who were previously infested are sensitized and may develop symptoms in 1 to 4 days.
 - **SPREAD:** Scabies is spread by having repeated direct contact with the skin of a person with scabies and by sharing bedding, towels or clothing that was used by a person with scabies. The mites cannot live off the human body for more than 3 days. They cannot reproduce off the body or on pets.
 - **CONTAGIOUS PERIOD:** The contagious period is from when a child get the mites until 24 hours after treatment begins. A child is contagious before the rash. Your child should remain at home until after treatment has been completed.
 - **CALL YOUR HEALTHCARE PROVIDER:** Contact your provider if anyone in your home has symptoms. Your provider may do a test and/or give a medication, usually a cream or lotion. Even with treatment, it often takes 2 to 3 weeks for the rash and itching to go away. Ask your provider who in the household needs to be treated.
 - **PREVENTION:** At the time of treatment, wash items used in the last 48 hours in hot water and put them in a hot dryer. Examples of things to wash are underwear, pajamas, bedding and towels. Items that cannot be washed should be sealed in a plastic bag for one week. Vacuum upholstered furniture and carpeting. **DO NOT** use insecticide sprays.
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- Source- Prevention and Control of Communicable Diseases: A Guide for School Administrators, Nurses, Teachers, Child Care Providers, and Parents or Guardians; Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services-Bureau of Communicable Disease Control and Prevention)