



Curriculum Guide for 4th – 6th Grade

This program is relevant to the [California State Board of Education Science Content standards](#) pertaining to life cycles and ecosystems in the 4th and 6th grades. It is also compatible with the Health Education Content Standards, grades 4 - 6, pertaining to health-enhancing behaviors, health promotion, decision making and injury prevention (<http://www.cde.ca.gov/be/st/ss/index.asp>). Post presentation assessments are voluntary but will help us evaluate and improve this program. We appreciate your participation.

At the end of presenting this program, students will know:

- What a tick is.
- That ticks can transmit disease to people and animals.
- How to properly remove a tick if they find one attached to themselves or a pet.
- How to prevent tick-bites.

Materials:

Brochures, bookmarks and tick ID cards are available free of charge from the California Department of Public Health. [Click here to email an order](#) or contact Claudia Erickson at (916) 552-9762. Allow two weeks for delivery.

- [Don't Let the Ticks Bite PowerPoint Show](https://archive.cdph.ca.gov/HealthInfo/discond/Pages/DontLettheTicksBiteToolkit.aspx) (online at <https://archive.cdph.ca.gov/HealthInfo/discond/Pages/DontLettheTicksBiteToolkit.aspx>)
- Don't Let the Ticks Bite Brochures (Available free – Order above)
- Beware of Ticks Bookmarks (Available free – Order above)
- Wallet-sized Tick ID Cards (Available free – Order above)
- Teacher Survey – to be completed by teacher for each class and mailed back to CDPH with the student post-tests (See Attachment 1)
- Student post-tests – to be administered at least three weeks after initial presentation (See Attachment 2)

(Additional information on tick-borne diseases can be found on [the California Department of Public Health's Tick-Borne Diseases website](https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/Tick-Borne-Diseases.aspx#) (<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/Tick-Borne-Diseases.aspx#>) and may be useful for teacher review.

Time Required:

The presentation of the “Don't Let the Ticks Bite” will take approximately 20 minutes.

Other activities will add 15 – 20 minutes.

The Lesson

(NOTE: Do not give the students the brochures or tick ID cards until Steps 5 and 7)

1. Begin by asking the students, “How many of you know what a tick is?”
Note the number of positive responses to the question under “Pre-Administration Assessment on the Teacher Survey”.
2. Then ask, “How many of you have been bitten by a tick before?”
Note the number of positive responses to the question under “Pre-Administration Assessment on the Teacher Survey”.
3. Using the PowerPoint show:
 - a. Play the “Don't Let the Ticks Bite” PowerPoint show. Advance each slide by pushing ENTER or by mouse click so that details can be pointed out to students.

4. Verify the students' understanding of the information by having the teacher use the quiz on the back of the brochure:

Quiz

Check your tick facts a quiz

1. Ticks are found naturally:
 a) on the Golden Gate Bridge.
 b) on grasses alongside trails.
 c) in the sandbox.
 d) on dirt.

2. You want to remove a tick from yourself or your pets because:
 a) ticks are ugly.
 b) you don't want them to have a free ride.
 c) your friends will be jealous if you have one and they don't.
 d) ticks can bite and may give you germs that can make you or your pets sick.

3. How do you keep ticks from biting you?
 a) wear long pants and tuck pants into your socks or boots.
 b) avoid brushing against tall grass, leaves, logs, or shrubs.
 c) Check for ticks on yourself, pets, and people with you when you leave the forest or grassy areas.
 d) all of the above.

4. If you find a tick attached to your skin, you should:
 a) Squash it like a bug.
 b) Grasp it with tweezers and yank it off.
 c) Grasp it with tweezers as close to the skin as possible and slowly pull it off in a steady, upward motion.
 d) wash it off.

5. Circle the picture of a tick.
 a.  b. 
 c.  d. 

Answers:
 1. b 2. d 3. d 4. c 5. b
 (a. is a roach; c. is a mosquito; d. is a flea)

Arnold Schwarzenegger, Governor
 State of California
 Kimberly Jordan, Secretary
 Health and Human Services Agency
 Mark B. Hatala, MD, MPH, Director
 California Department of Public Health
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 Vector-Borne Disease Section
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Option A - The Team Approach:

- Divide the group into two to four teams.
 - a. “Game Show” approach (fast):
 Using the questions 1- 4 on the back of the brochure, read each question and see what team answers correctly first. Discuss why each team chose their answer.
 - b. Team work/class presentation approach (slightly longer):
 Using the questions on the back of the brochure, have each team discuss and answer one of the first four questions.
- Give each team a few minutes to discuss and decide on their answer. Have each team report their answers to the group.

Option B - The Group Approach (requires less time):

- The teacher can ask the questions of the entire group, using raised hands as an indication if the group thinks that the answer is a, b, c, or d.

(Note that the answers are on the back of the brochure under question 5. Since question 5 involves small photos, responding to that question can be an individual activity for the student after the brochure is distributed to them.)

5. Distribute the “Don’t Let the Ticks Bite” brochure to each student. Allow students to look at the brochure (the information in the brochure mirrors what is in the PowerPoint presentation).
6. Answer any questions.
7. Distribute the Tick ID cards. Suggest that students take this and the brochure home to their parent/guardian for review and discussion. The Tick ID card is a handy wallet size so families may find it fun to use if they find a tick while out together and they want to identify it.

At least three weeks from the time of the initial class:

1. Without reviewing the PowerPoint presentation:
 - a. Distribute student post-tests to students (Attachment 2)
 - b. Have students complete post-test and collect them - we’ll do the grading so just bundle them for us! Students do not have to put their name on the quiz, however, note if possible if they were absent for the initial presentation by noting “absent” on the post test of those who were not there.
 - c. Discuss the correct answers as a group to reinforce the information. An answer key is provided if you choose to grade or review in class. The PowerPoint presentation may also be used to review.
 - d. Ask students, by show of hands, how many took the materials home and shared them with a parent/guardian.
 - o Note that number under the “Post Administration Assessment of the Teacher Survey” (Attachment 1).
 - e. Give the students the “Beware of Ticks” bookmark.
2. Complete Teacher Survey and mail along with the Student Post-tests in the envelope provided.

If you have ANY questions about “Don’t Let the Ticks Bite” or you need more educational materials please contact Claudia Erickson at (916) 552-9762 or [click here to email an order](#).

Don't Let the Ticks Bite Teacher Survey



Please complete a Teacher Survey for each session you teach. Return the completed survey and student quizzes to the address below. Thank you!

Pre-Administration Assessment

1. Number of participants who know what a tick is? _____
2. Number of participants reporting tick bites? _____

Post-Administration Assessment (to be completed at least 3 weeks after initial program administration)

1. Date of Post Administration: _____
2. Number of participants who said they brought materials home and showed a parent/guardian? _____

General Session Information

1. Name of teacher/instructor (optional): _____
2. Type of Organization:

School

4-H

Scouts

Park Ranger

Other (please specify) _____
3. Date of Session: _____
4. Length of Session: _____ minutes

5. Total number of student participants: _____

_____ Boys _____ Girls

6. Age Range of participants: _____ to _____ years old

7. Grade level(s) of participants: _____ grade to _____ grade

8. Please tell us what you liked or did not like about the following items in terms of utility as a teaching tool.

PowerPoint presentation

Brochures

Bookmarks

Tick Cards

9. Please tell us your impression of what the students thought about the materials. For example, which media format did they prefer (if multiple formats were used) and what were their favorite or least favorite parts of the program?

Please return student quizzes and the Teacher Survey to:

Claudia Erickson, CDPH, MS 7308, P.O. Box 997377, Sacramento, CA 95814.

If you have any questions, please contact Claudia Erickson at (916) 552-9762 or claudia.erickson@cdph.ca.gov. Thank you.

Tick Facts: What do you remember?

Circle the correct answer:

1. How do you keep ticks from biting you?

- a) wear long pants and tuck pants into your socks or boots.
- b) avoid brushing against tall grass, leaves, logs, or shrubs.
- c) check for ticks on yourself, pets, and people with you when you leave the forest or grassy areas.
- d) all of the above.

2. Ticks are found naturally:

- a) on the roof of a house.
- b) on grasses alongside trails.
- c) in the sandbox.
- d) on dirt.

3. If you find a tick attached to your skin, you should:

- a) squash it like a bug.
- b) grasp it with tweezers and yank it off.
- c) grasp it with tweezers as close to the skin as possible and slowly pull it off in a steady, upward motion.
- d) wash it off.

4. You want to remove a tick from yourself or your pets because:

- a) the tick could stay on you for a month or more.
- b) ticks can bite and may give you germs that can make you or your pets sick.
- c) The tick may jump from you or your pet onto someone else.
- d) you don't want them to have a free ride.

5. Circle the picture of a tick.

a.



b.



c.



d.



**Tick Facts:
What do you remember?**

Answer Key

- 1. D**
- 2. B**
- 3. C**
- 4. B**
- 5. C**