



# Lice Outbreak Notification

## Dear Parent or Guardian:

This letter is to inform you that a case of head lice has been discovered in your child's school. Head lice are nothing to panic or be embarrassed about. There are 8–12 million cases of head lice in our country each year. The presence of head lice is in no way indicative of a lack of cleanliness. In fact, with relatively easy-to-use treatments, lice are easily eliminated. Should you suspect that your child has been exposed to lice, the following steps may help control the spread of this problem.

- Examine your child's scalp and hair for any sign of nits and/or lice. (Nits are the small white egg cases attached to the hair near the scalp.) Examine all other family members as well
- Wash your hands and your child's hands thoroughly, being sure to get under the nails—Scratching is one of the early warning signs
- Discourage any sharing of combs, hats, barrettes or other personal items commonly worn on the head
- If nits and/or lice are found, notify the school so that any outbreak can be contained



Lice are as big as sesame seeds.

## IF NITS AND/OR LICE ARE FOUND, THE FOLLOWING STEPS SHOULD BE TAKEN TO ELIMINATE THEM:

### Step 1

#### Treat

- Use a pediculicide (lice-killing treatment) such as RID<sup>®</sup> Lice Killing Shampoo. These products kill lice and their eggs —Reapplication and egg removal are required to ensure complete effectiveness. (See the label for important information.)

### Step 2

#### Remove

- Apply RID<sup>®</sup> Lice & Egg Comb-Out Gel to one section of hair. (Do not apply to entire head at once, since gel dries quickly.) Massage thoroughly until all strands of hair in this section are covered with the gel. Comb out any remaining eggs with a fine-tooth comb (such as the RID comb) after each application.

### Step 3

#### Control

- Spray household furniture and carpeting with a lice control spray such as RID<sup>®</sup> Lice Control Spray. Remember, RID Spray is a pesticide, and should be used carefully. As with any pesticide, read and follow the label directions and caution statements, including these:
  - Do not touch articles until spray has dried thoroughly
  - Vacuum all infested areas after spraying
  - Never use RID Spray on humans or animals
- Isolate all clothing and linen, and wash in hot water—at least 130°F/54°C
  - Put in dryer for a minimum of 20 minutes
- For non-washable items, dry-clean or place in a tightly sealed plastic bag for 14 days



Should you have any questions about lice or how to eliminate them once discovered, speak with your healthcare professional.