

Basic K-6 Tick Awareness and Tick Bite Lesson Plan

This is a broad, basic lesson plan designed for elementary school age children. Age-appropriate classroom strategies should be used for different grade levels.

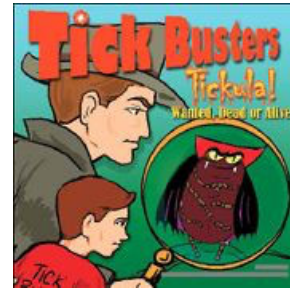
Overarching Objective: As a public service, encourage teachers, parents, and students to create and share their activities and reinforcement materials to learn about ticks with others on www.tickbusters.org.

Lesson/Goal: The student will learn about ticks, their habitats, life cycle, and tick bite prevention. Older students should be able to answer the question: How does this information empower you?

Time: 30-40 minutes.

Materials:

- Tick Busters story booklet
- Tick Busters coloring book
- Tick Busters brochure
- Tick Busters Know Your Tick ID card
- Tick Busters removable fun tattoo
- Chart paper, crayons, colored pencils
- NatCapLyme's Tick Wheel Identifier



Lesson/Engage: Ask students to share what they know about ticks and tick-bite prevention. For upper grade levels create a fact list that can remain visible to students.

Lesson/Explore: Read the Tick Busters story booklet aloud to class or watch the companion video on www.tickbusters.org. Discussion follows. Allow time for students to examine brochure and tick ID card. Use the **NatCapLyme Tick Wheel Identifier** and the Tick Busters ID card to compare and identify types of ticks. Lower grades use coloring book in a fun activity to review and cement what they have learned.

Lesson/Elaborate: Question: ***What have we now learned about ticks that we did not know before?*** Ask class to discuss the new facts about ticks that they learned from reading the booklet, companion materials and doing the planned activities. Upper grades can add new items to their previous tick fact list. Organize new information by two categories, Tick awareness and Tick Bite Prevention, alongside the initial list. In upper grades emphasize the empowerment of knowing more than they did before the lesson and how this new information is beneficial to them.

Explain: Review information with students to determine what they learned from the booklet about ticks and prevention that they did not already know and how they could utilize this new information by taking it home to share with their families. (Each student receives a fun, removable Tick Busters tattoo and membership card for participating in the lesson).

Evaluate: All grade levels learned and shared new information about ticks and how to prevent a tick bite. Upper grade students successfully collected data and entered it on a chart and gained new knowledge about ticks. Students utilize their new knowledge and become educators to their parents, families, and friends.

Extended Activities Lesson: Teachers and students design age-appropriate games, posters, videos, etc. about ticks and prevention to be displayed and shared on www.tickbusters.org. As a Tick Buster member, students will continue to do a public service by educating parents, family members, and neighbors about ticks and how to prevent a tick bite.

