

FREE TO BE Forest School LLC

TICK POLICY & PROCEDURES

At Forest School, leaders and learners are outside 100% of the time, adventuring through both wooded and grassy areas. In New Jersey, there is a very high prevalence of ticks, and even with all the necessary precautions, the risk of finding a tick is still considerable.

Throughout the day and at the end of each class, leaders superficially check each child for ticks. Each Forest School Leader carries with them a lint roller to find any ticks crawling on the children's clothing. They also carry tape to keep and label any ticks that may have been embedded, in the event that the parent/guardian would like to send the tick out for testing .

It is the responsibility of the parents and guardians to do a more thorough check, especially in the bathing suit area. Ticks like warm, moist places. Be sure to check behind ears, arm pits, scalp, behind the knees, in between fingers and toes, the belly button and groin area.

It is good practice to make each Forest School day a bath day, and to change and wash the children's clothing immediately after each class.

Please send your child in light-colored clothing, long pants, long socks and boots. All clothing should be sprayed with tick repellent. Long hair should be tied back, and long sleeves (cotton or silk in warm weather) are recommended.

