



# HEAD LICE POLICY

## WHAT ARE HEAD LICE?

Head lice are tiny insects that live in, and lay eggs (nits) on, human hair. Head lice are highly contagious and often spread throughout a class or grade before being discovered. The sharing of a comb or a hat or putting a child's head on someone else's pillow case is all it takes to spread head lice from one person to another. The presence of lice has nothing to do with cleanliness and does not reflect poorly on you as a parent.

## OUR POLICY IS:

All campers are checked for head lice upon arrival at the Health Center on the first day of camp. Campers with head lice are not able to attend Camp Neveda. **Refunds can not be given.**

## CHECK YOUR CHILD FOR HEAD LICE

Check your child for head lice ***before*** she/he comes to camp, especially if there has been an outbreak in their school system. It is advisable to check your child several weeks before camp because successful treatment can take several weeks.

Head lice themselves are not easily visible, but the nits (eggs) can be. Nits look much like spots of dandruff, but cannot be easily removed from the base of the hair they're attached to.

## TREATING YOUR CHILD FOR HEAD LICE

Treatment needs to be performed at least two times a few days apart. Once to kill the living lice and again a few days later to kill lice that may have hatched since the first treatment. In addition to treating your child, wash bedding and clothing in hot water and dry on high for at least 20 minutes to kill possible "hitchhikers."

Ask your pharmacist, school nurse or physician for a treatment recommendation. There are nontoxic treatments available for head lice.

## PREVENTING THE FURTHER SPREAD OF HEAD LICE

To prevent the re-infestation or spread of head lice you also need to check the rest of your household and alert anyone else your child might have had close contact with.