

Name: _____

Do you know what a pest is?

Pests are animals, insects or plants in places where people don't want them. Here are some pictures of common insects that people don't like to see in their homes or schools.



ant



cockroach



fly

Some pests annoy us. Some pests, such as spiders, frighten some people even though spiders don't cause any harm. In fact, spiders are helpful because they eat other insects.

Some pests are harmful. Rats can spread disease. Wasps and mosquitoes can bite or sting. Roaches and flies can get in our food.

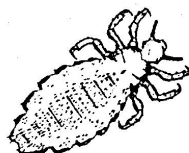
Pests need food, water, and shelter to live. They like to hide in clutter. You can prevent insect and rodent problems at school if you make it hard for pests to get food and water and don't create places where they can hide.

Here are some pest prevention rules.

1. Clean up crumbs and spills promptly.
2. Bring food in sealed containers and take home all your leftovers.
3. Dispose of trash and garbage in the proper containers.
4. Don't leave food and dirty wrappers or juice containers laying around.
5. Encourage your friends to keep their lockers, cubbies, and classroom clean and tidy.

☺ Take a look around your classroom. What can you do right now to prevent a pest problem?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____



Head Louse

HEAD LICE can be a big problem. You can protect yourself from head lice.

1. Don't share hats, combs, brushes, helmets, headphones or other head gear.
2. Hang your coats and hats on your own hook or in your own cubby or locker.
3. Don't bring pillows or stuffed animals to school.

☺ Make a poster to help you and your classmates remember the rules to prevent pest problems.



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