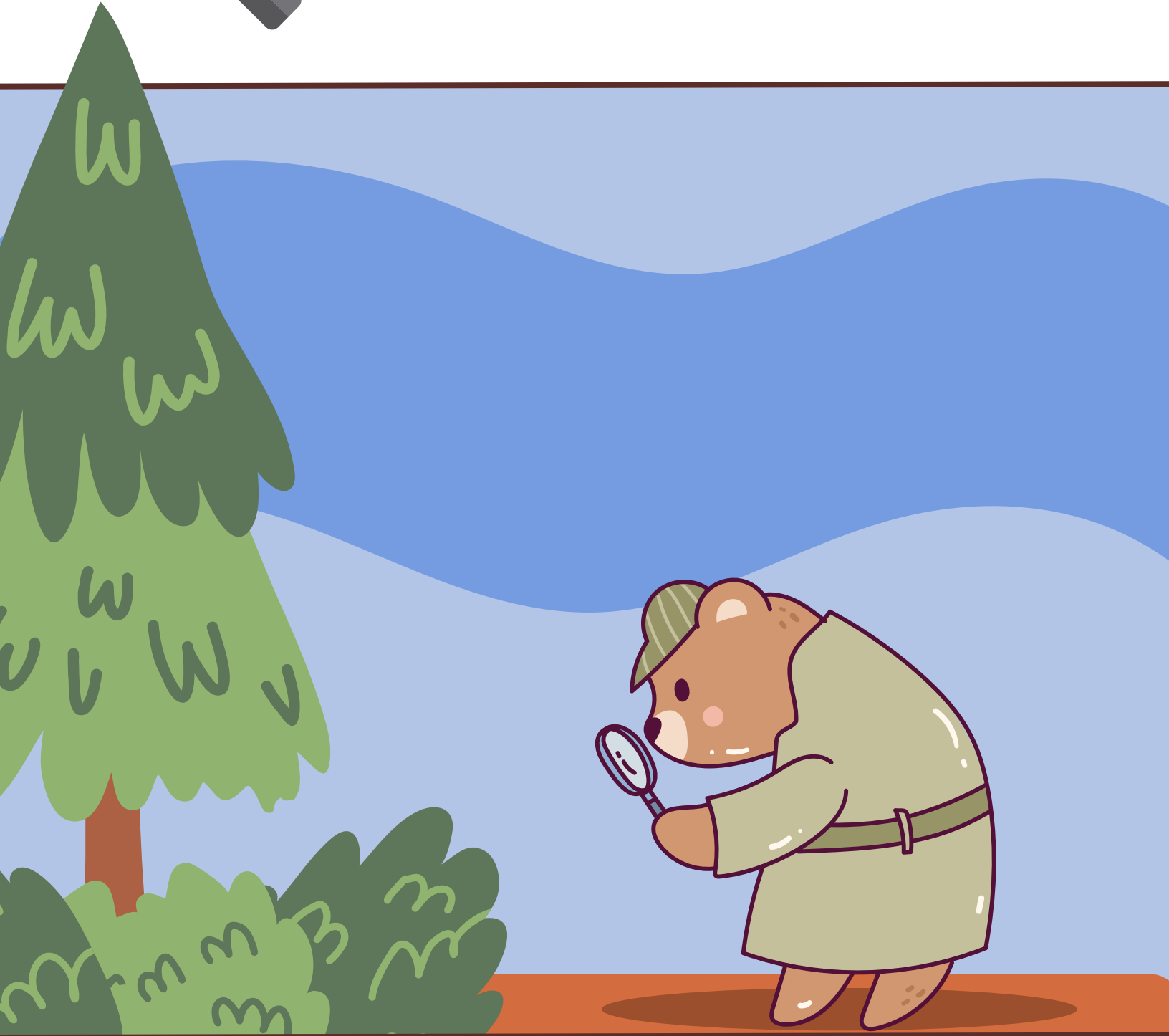




TICK DETECTIVE ACTIVITY BOOK



FIGHT THE BITE!

Activity book adapted from Monroe County Health Department



WHAT ARE TICKS?

Ticks are a part of a large family of animals called arthropods. Like spiders, they are arachnids, not insects. They have eight legs instead of the six that insects have.



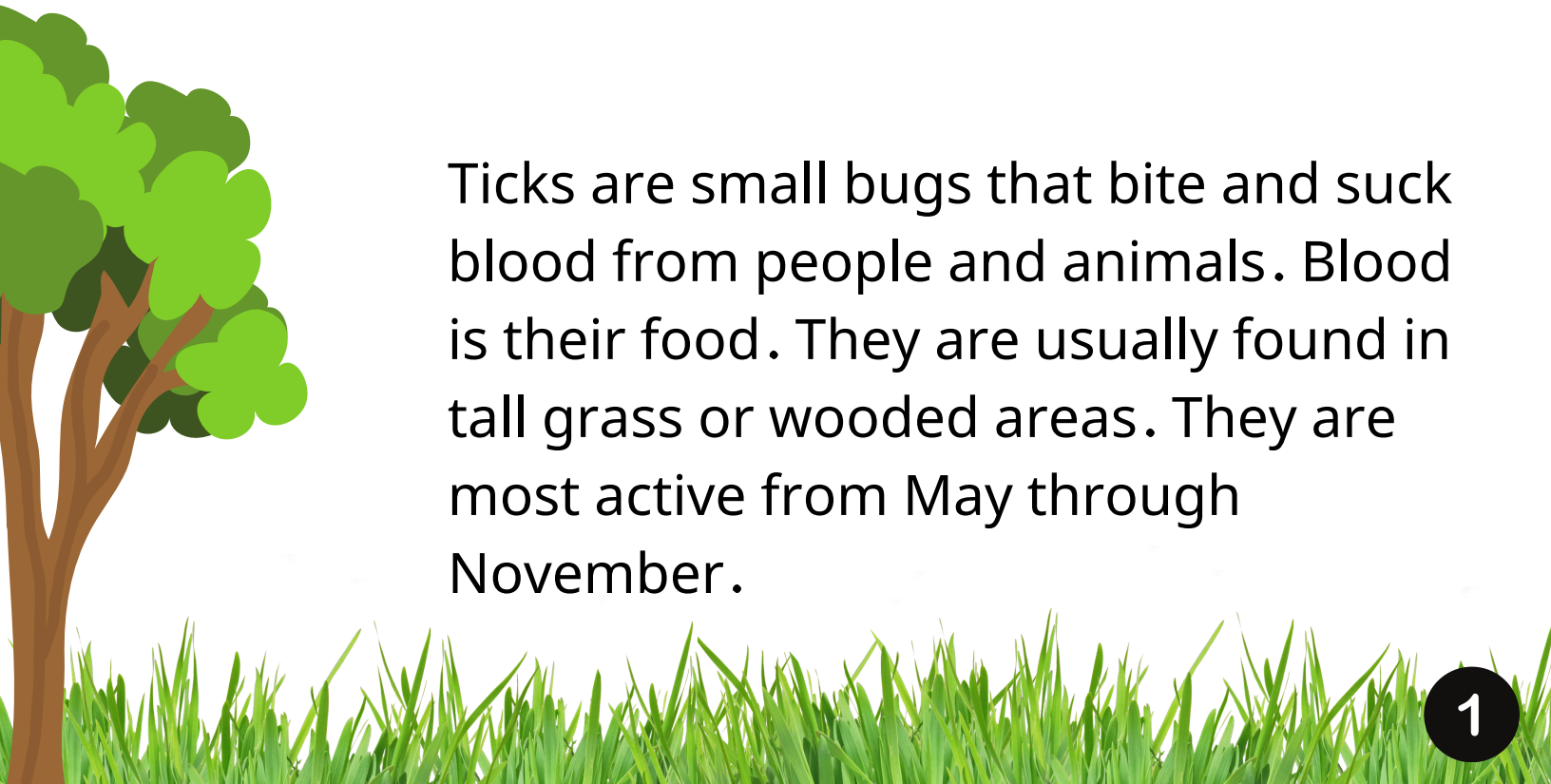
Arachnid (Tick)



Arachnid (Spider)



Insect (Beetle)

A decorative illustration of a green tree on the left and a patch of green grass at the bottom of the page.

Ticks are small bugs that bite and suck blood from people and animals. Blood is their food. They are usually found in tall grass or wooded areas. They are most active from May through November.

TICKS OF WISCONSIN

Wisconsin has 16 types of ticks. Only a few bite and spread diseases to people. The most common ticks are deer ticks and wood ticks.



Deer / Blacklegged Tick



Lone Star Tick

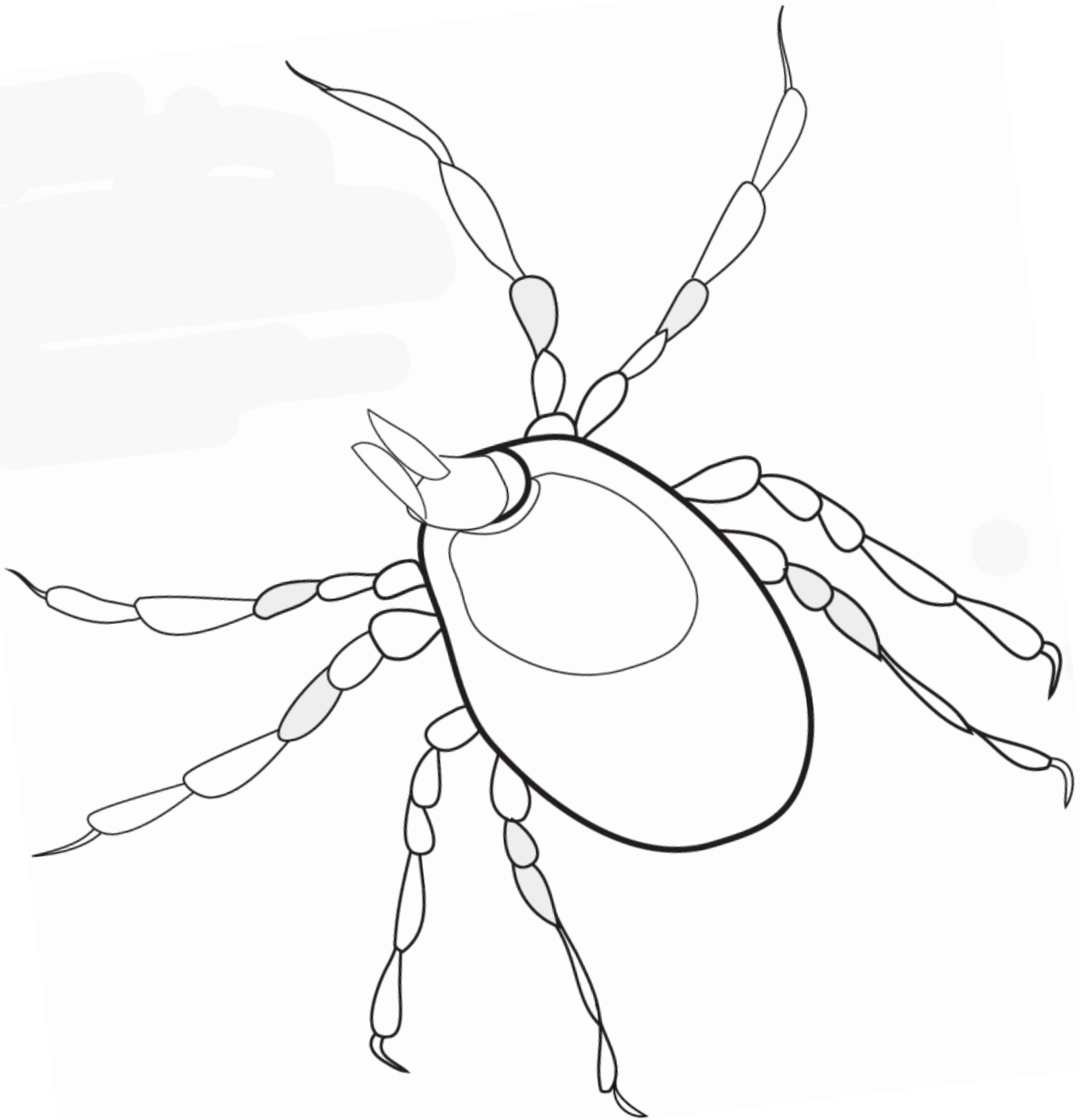


Wood / American Dog Tick

HOW DO THE TICKS LOOK ALIKE?
HOW DO THEY LOOK DIFFERENT?

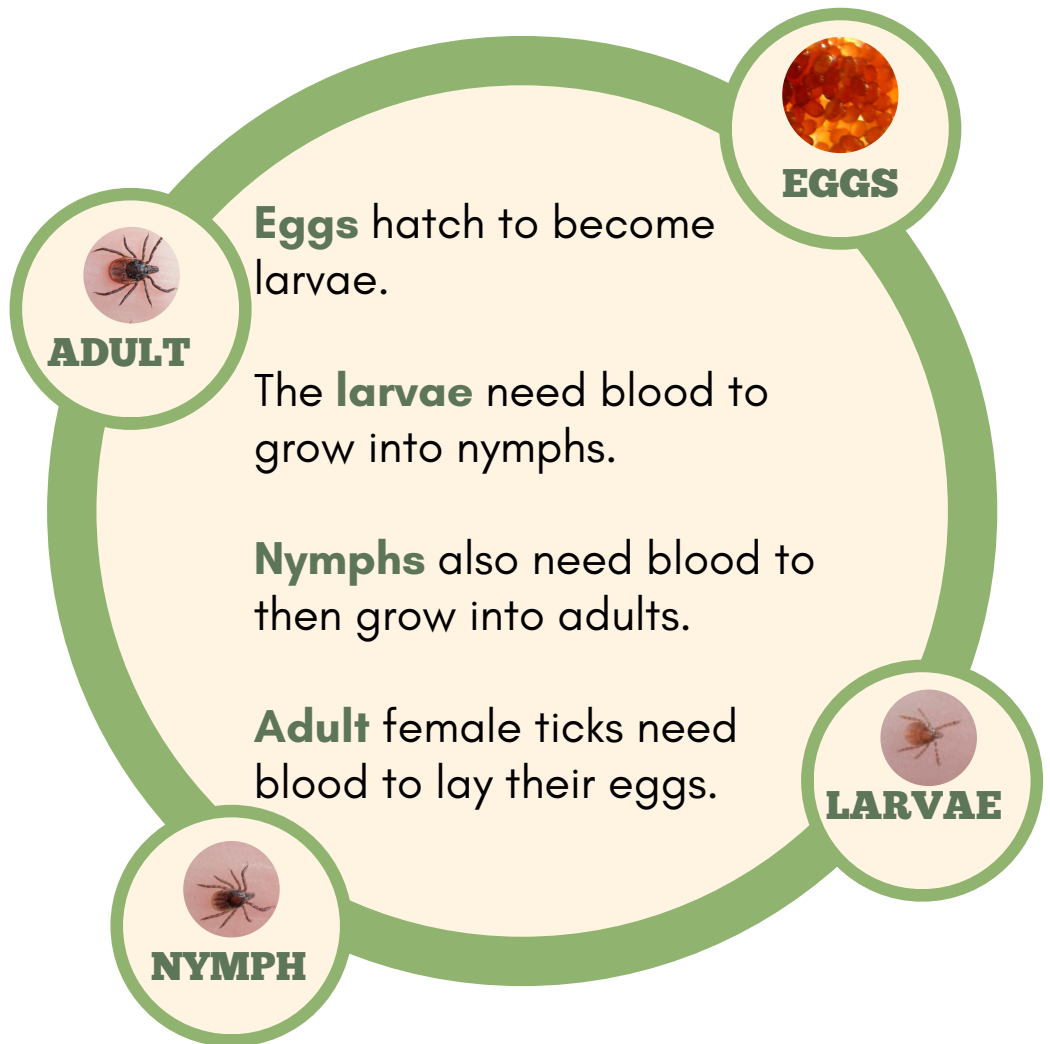
Write your Answer Here:

COLOR IN THE DEER TICK!



THE LIFE CYCLE OF A TICK

There are four stages in a tick's life. After eggs hatch, ticks will need blood to live.



WHERE DO TICKS LIVE?

Ticks live in areas with wood and grass. Ticks move by crawling. They do not jump or fly.



✓ Ticks Love:

- Shade
- Leaf piles
- Tall grass
- Wood piles
- Animals and people for food

✗ Ticks Don't Like:

- Lots of sunlight
- Water
- Woodchip or gravel areas
- Having no food

WHAT ANIMALS EAT TICKS?

A small number of animals eat ticks.

Animals that eat ticks are:



- frogs
- toads
- spiders
- raccoons
- some insects
- rodents
- some birds
- lizards
- opossums



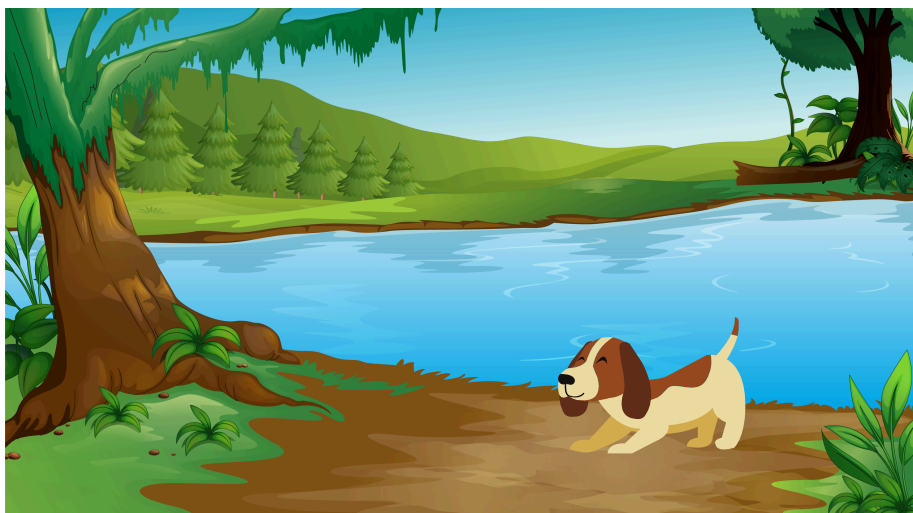
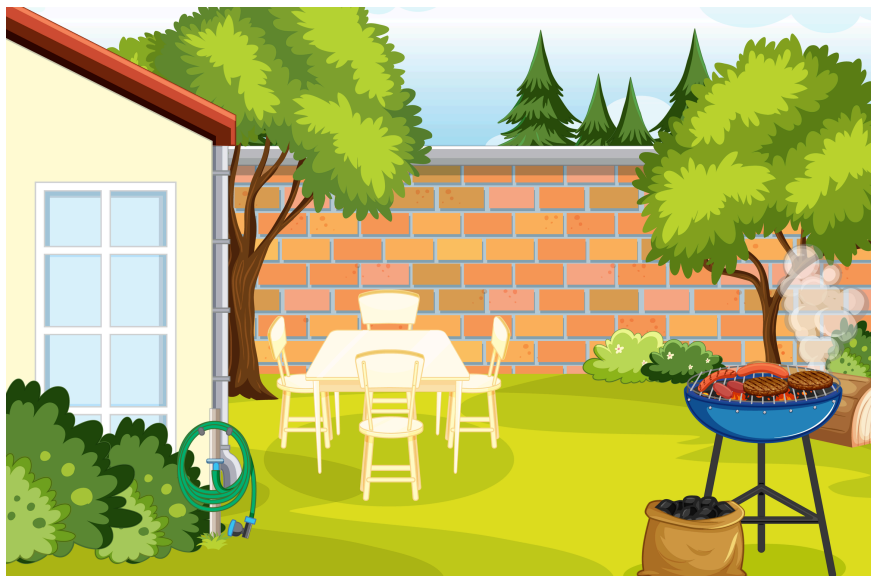
HOW DO TICKS FIND THEIR HOST?

A host is a human or animal who a tick uses for food. Ticks find their hosts by detecting breath, body odors, sensing body heat, moisture, or vibrations. Ticks act like a detective by picking a place to wait on paths people use. Then they wait for a host, resting on the tips of grasses.



FIND WHERE TICKS LIVE!

Circle the places where ticks might live in each picture.



Answer Key on page 14.

TICKS ARE TINY!

It can be hard to see ticks outside, on us, or pets because ticks are very tiny! Baby ticks are about the size of a poppy seed. Adult ticks are about the size of a sesame seed.

There are 5 ticks on this muffin.
Can you circle all of the ticks?



Answer Key on page 15.

WHY DO WE CARE ABOUT TICKS?

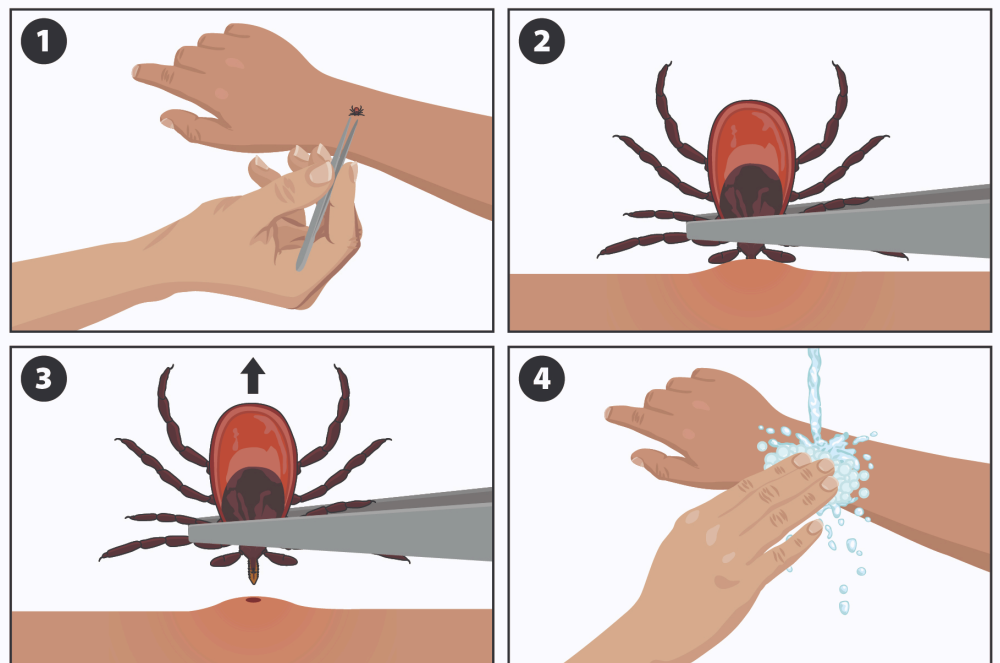


Ticks can make you sick. Ticks can carry diseases in their blood that can make people and animals sick. Ticks can give the diseases to the person or animal when they bite them.

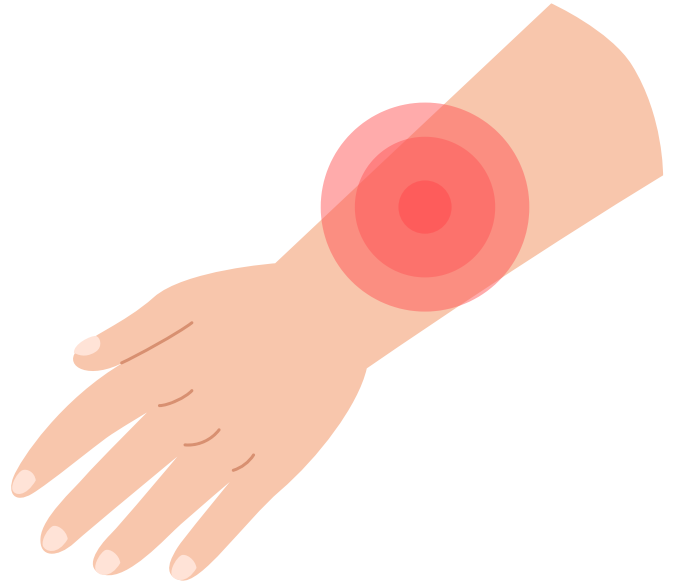
WHAT TO DO IF YOU FIND A TICK?

Tell an adult right away if there is a tick on your body. Have an adult remove the tick right away.

FOR ADULTS:
The best way to remove a tick is with tweezers or a tick scoop! Free tick kits are available at the Manitowoc County Health Department!



IF YOU SEE A RASH THAT LOOKS LIKE THIS:



Show your parent or guardian immediately

FOR ADULTS: Make sure to go to the doctor if you see this bulls eye type of rash.

HOW DO I PROTECT MYSELF FROM TICKS?

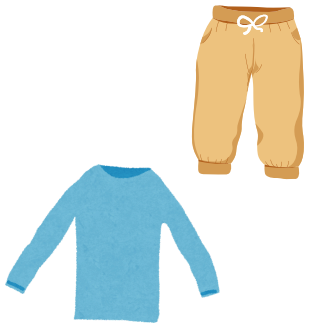
Be a tick detective!



Know where ticks live and how to avoid them.



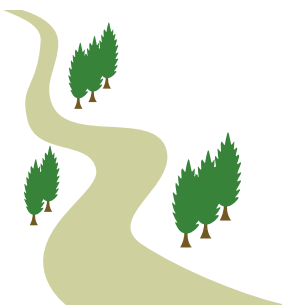
Use bug spray before going outside.



Wear long pants and long-sleeved shirts while outside. Tuck your pants into your socks and your shirt into your pants so ticks cannot crawl into your clothes.



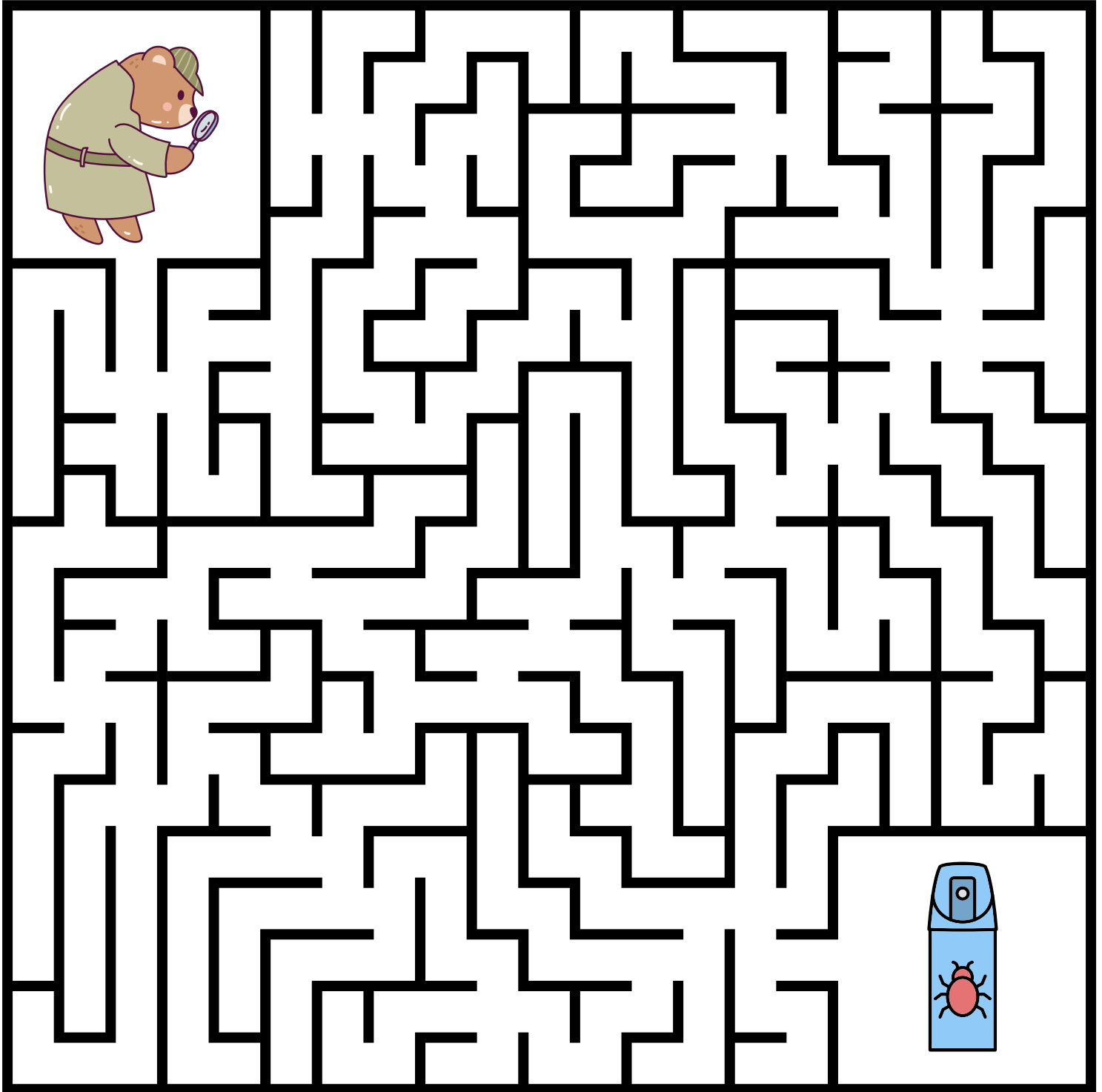
Take a bath or shower when you come inside. Look for ticks on your body in the shower.



Walk on trails or sidewalks. When you touch leaves or tall grass, ticks may get on to your body. Do not go in places where you know ticks live, like: brush and tall grass or a woodpile.

PROTECT YOURSELF!

Can you help the kids find their bug spray?



Answer Key on page 16.

WHERE DO TICKS HIDE ON MY BODY?

Always be a tick detective after being outside!
Check your body for ticks.



HIDDEN WORDS

Can you find all of the hidden words?

R E A U S F J M I S R J Q
T E T F J M F I D P A O U
M M P I J T A O P A S U T
R X G E B S O L S N H W L
E Z P S L W I P L T M E P
N I K V W L R M C S A E Q
T I C K S A E B M V N Z S
K I T Z Y H J N E B X P Q
Y A S N C J P S T R A B W
G R A S S T W E E Z E R S

WORD BANK

SPRAY

WOODS

LEAVES

REPELLENT

BITE

PANTS

SMALL

TWEEZERS

TICKS

GRASS

RASH

Answer Key on page 17.

ANSWER KEY



ANSWER KEY



ANSWER KEY

R E A U S F J M I S R J Q
T E T F J M F I D P A O U
M M P I J T A O P A S U T
R X G E B S O L S N H W L
E Z P S L W I P L T M E P
N I K V W L R M C S A E Q
T I C K S A E B M V N Z S
K I T Z Y H J N E B X P Q
Y A S N C J P S T R A B W
G R A S S T W E E Z E R S

WORD BANK

SPRAY
WOODS
LEAVES
REPELLENT

BITE
PANTS
SMALL
TWEEZERS

TICKS
GRASS
RASH