Dear Parent or Guardian,

Do you know that Lyme disease is a bacterial infection caused by tick bites? Most cases of Lyme disease can be treated successfully with a few weeks of antibiotics. If left untreated, infection can spread to joints, the heart, and the nervous system.

Our campaign theme this year is, “Don't Let a Tick Make You Sick.” It is important to know “where ticks are found” to avoid exposure to ticks and possibly Lyme disease. Avoiding ticks is key to preventing a tick bite.

This is why we are encouraging your child to participate in this year’s “Don’t Let a Tick Make You Sick” art competition. Please join us in this opportunity to help educate your child and their peers about where ticks are found and how to prevent encountering ticks in their habitat.

This art contest is open to children in grades 1-6, broken into three groups: grades 1-2, 3-4, and 5-6).

**Deadline for submission:** Entries must be received by March 6, 2020, at 5 p.m. Entries may be submitted by e-mail at: ra-dhlymecontest@pa.gov or mailed to: Department of Health, Bureau of Epidemiology c/o Lyme Poster Contest 625 Forster St., 9th Floor Harrisburg, PA 17120-0701

**Notification of Finalists:** will be occur via letter by April 24, 2020. The top 2 finalists for each grade level will be invited to Harrisburg where the winners will be announced in May 2020

**Don't Let a Tick Make You Sick Art Competition Guidelines:**

**Competition Rules:**
* Entries will be judged in one of three groups: grades 1-2, grades 3-4, and grades 5-6.
* Only one entry allowed per child.
* Each submission must illustrate “Where Ticks are Found” and “How to Prevent Encountering a Tick”.

**Submission guidelines:**
* Posters should be on white drawing or heavy construction paper. 12 x 18 is the preferred size. (11x 17 will also be accepted). Do not laminate or mount.
* Submissions may be drawn, hand-written, or computer-generated.
* To be considered, submissions must be accompanied by a completed consent form (below). The consent form should be firmly attached to the poster.
* Also, please print the following information on the back of each poster entry: child’s name, grade, teacher’s name, school name, school address, and school phone number.

**Judging Criteria: each entry must**
* Be an original work of the contestant
* Include at least one location where ticks can be found
* Include at least one tick bite prevention technique
* Demonstrate creativity
* Be neat in its appearance
* Most importantly, have fun and be creative!

**Address:**
Mail entries to: Department of Health, Bureau of Epidemiology
c/o Lyme Poster Contest
625 Forster St., 9th Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17120-0701

**or**
E-Mail entries to ra-dhlymecontest@pa.gov

* Children of Department of Health and Department of Education employees cannot participate in this competition.
Pennsylvania Department of Health  
Lyme Disease Prevention Poster Contest 2019

Release Form

Student’s Name:______________________________________________

Grade:______________________________________________________

Hometown:__________________________________________________

School:_____________________________________________________

Teacher>Contact: Telephone ( )_____________ E-mail___________

I hereby certify that this poster was entirely created by the student above and is the student's original artwork.

I agree that it may be offered for public display or publication at some time during or after the contest. I understand that this poster becomes the property of the Pennsylvania Department of Health and may be reproduced. The only information that may be released is your child’s name, school and grade.

Signature of Parent or Guardian:_____________________________________

Print Name:_____________________________________________________

Date:___________________________________________________________________

This form must be attached to each poster