

A MINUTE OF HEALTH WITH CDC

Wash Your Hands If You Pet That Bunny

Compendium of Measures to Prevent Disease Associated with Animals in Public Settings, 2007

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This program is presented by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. CDC – safer, healthier people.

Most of us have fond memories of petting zoos, animals in our classrooms, or other close encounters with unusual animals. We probably learned valuable lessons from those experiences, but did you know that animals can carry germs that can make people sick? To keep children – and ourselves – safe from illness or injury, it's important to follow these recommendations: wash hands thoroughly with soap and water right after visiting an animal area; don't eat, drink, or put things in your mouth while visiting an animal exhibit; and approach contact with animals cautiously. Children should be closely supervised and people at greater risk of illness, like pregnant women or older people, should be especially careful at animal exhibits.

Thank you for joining us on A Minute of Health with CDC.

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