Your child may have been exposed to:

Bronchitis

Bronchitis/bronchiolitis are respiratory illnesses caused by viruses or bacteria.

If you think your child has Bronchitis:

- Tell your childcare provider or call the school.
- **Need to stay home?**

  Childcare and School:

  Yes, until fever is gone and your child is healthy enough for routine activities.

DO NOT give aspirin or salicylate-containing medicines to anyone under 18 years of age.

Symptoms

Your child may have a runny nose and fever. Cough starts out dry and harsh. It becomes looser after the child has been sick for a while. Your child may have a sore throat. The cough can last 1 to 2 weeks.

Spread

- By touching secretions from the nose or mouth.
- By touching contaminated hands, objects or surfaces.

Contagious Period

Shortly before and while your child has symptoms.

Call your Healthcare Provider

- If your child has a fever. Also if your child has a sore throat or cough that won't go away.

Antibiotics do not work for illnesses caused by a virus, including some types of bronchitis.

Prevention

- Cover nose and mouth when coughing and sneezing. Use a tissue or your sleeve. Dispose of used tissues.
- Wash hands after touching anything that could be contaminated with secretions from the nose or mouth. Your child may need help with handwashing.
- Clean and disinfect any objects or surfaces that come in contact with secretions from the nose or mouth. Use a product that kills bacteria and viruses.
- DO NOT expose your child to second-hand tobacco smoke. Smoke increases the risk for serious respiratory infections and middle ear infections.

For more information, call Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (MDHSS) at 573-751-6113 or 866-628-9891 (8-5 Monday thru Friday) or call your local health department.