

# Baby Chicks

## and Salmonella

Baby Chicks may carry Salmonella bacteria. These germs can make you sick.



## Preventing Salmonella in Children

To keep kids from getting sick make sure they:

- ❖ **Do not** put their hands in their mouths after touching chicks
- ❖ **Do not** kiss chicks on their beak or feathers
- ❖ **Do not** handle or clean cages or food containers
- ❖ **Do not** eat or drink near the baby chicks
- ❖ **Do not** put their mouths on objects that have been near the chick or its cage

Traditional springtime activities may include purchasing baby chicks. Baby chicks can be wonderful pets but, it is important to know that even healthy looking chicks may be carrying dangerous germs called *Salmonella*.

For additional information, please visit:  
<http://www.mainepublichealth.gov>

## What Can Parents Do To Keep Children Safe?

Children under five should not handle baby chicks *but if they do* be sure you:

- ✓ **Keep chicks out of the kitchen and other living areas.**
- ✓ **Wash children's hands thoroughly with plenty of running water and soap after contact with chicks.**
- ✓ **Contact your healthcare provider or go to a clinic if your child has diarrhea or vomiting.**

