# SIGNS OF ILLNESS IN CHILDREN

If a child in your care exhibits any of the following common signs of acute illness, you should contact the child's parent immediately and try to keep the child separated from the other children until the parent arrives.

| **General Appearance** | • Excessive crying, clinginess, fussiness  
• Doubled over in pain, unable to move  
• Listless, lethargic, unresponsive  
• Vomiting, diarrhea  
• Feverish  
• Seizure (although child has no history of seizure disorder) |
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| **Breathing** | • Fast, shallow, gasping breaths  
• Difficulty breathing, wheezing  
• Sucking in around ribs  
• Flaring nostrils  
• Persistent or uncontrollable coughing |
| **Skin** | • Pale, grayish, flushed, yellowish skin  
• Hot or cold and clammy skin  
• Skin rashes, sores, swelling, or bruising  
• Scratching at skin or scalp  
• Skin doesn't spring back when pinched |
| **Eyes, Nose, Ears, and Mouth** | • Eyes swollen, red, crusty, watery, yellowish, or sunken  
• Nose congested or runny  
• Ears draining pus or blood  
• Pulling at ears  
• Mouth or lips with sores  
• Sore throat, difficulty swallowing  
• Excessive drooling |
| **Appearance of Urine/Stool** | • Gray or white stool  
• Black or blood-flecked stool  
• Unusually dark or tea-colored urine |