

Pinworm

Pinworm is an intestinal infection caused by tiny parasitic worms measuring about 5 to 10 millimeters (about half to one centimeter) in length. Other names for a pinworm infection are "seatworm infection," "threadworm infection," "enterobiasis," or "oxyuriasis."

One of the most common roundworm infections, pinworm infections probably affect about 200 million people across the world, including about one third of the population in the United States. Of all age groups, schoolchildren are most at risk for pinworm infections.

But if your child has a pinworm infection, don't worry. Pinworms don't cause any harm (just itching), and it won't take long to get rid of them. And people who have pinworms aren't dirty - kids can get pinworms no matter how often they take a bath or play in the mud.