

IMPOSTER

Common Childhood Rash Look-Alikes

Measles

Measles is an acute, highly contagious viral disease caused by the measles virus.

Who is most at risk?

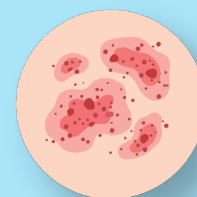
People who are not protected against measles, including those who are not up to date on recommended MMR vaccination.

Symptoms include:

- fever
- red, watery eyes
- cough
- runny nose
- rash

What does the rash look like?

- Flat red spots, sometimes with small raised bumps
- Begins around the face/hairline and spreads downward



Treatment:

There is no specific treatment for measles, and care focuses on symptoms.

School?

Stay home from school if measles is suspected and call your healthcare provider.

Impetigo

Impetigo is a very contagious bacterial skin infection that starts as a red, itchy sore.

Symptoms include:

- reddish sores around the nose and mouth

What does the rash look like?

- Reddish sores or blisters that rupture, ooze fluid
- Dry sores with a honey-colored or yellowish crust

Treatment:

Treatable with antibiotics.

School?

Can generally return after starting antibiotics and when exposed sores can be covered; follow provider/school guidance



Hand, Foot, & Mouth Disease (HFMD)

HFMD is a common, contagious viral illness that mostly affects young children under five years old.

Symptoms include:

- fever
- painful mouth sores
- rash

What does the rash look like?

- A blister-like rash on the hands and feet

Treatment:

Usually gets better on its own.

School?

Generally do not need to stay home if they do not have fever or uncontrolled drooling from mouth sores; follow provider/school guidance



Scarlet Fever/Strep Rash

Scarlet fever is a bacterial illness caused by the same group A streptococcus bacteria that causes strep throat.

Symptoms include:

- fever
- sore throat
- red, bumpy tongue
- rash

What does the rash look like?

- A fine, red, bumpy rash
- Usually starts on the neck and chest before spreading to the body.
- Feels rough like sandpaper.

Treatment:

Treatable with antibiotics.

School?

Stay home until fever-free and at least 12–24 hours after starting appropriate antibiotics.; follow provider/school guidance

