Fever: the body's way of fighting sickness



want to play or eat, your child should see the doctor no matter what the thermometer reads.

If you aren't sure, call your doctor. Say what your child's temperature is and where you took it – under the tongue, in the armpit, etc.

AGE: BIRTH - 2 MONTHS

TEMPERATURE OVER 100.5°F: Call the doctor NOW. Don't give any medicine. Fever in babies can be a sign of a bad infection.

AGE: 3 MONTHS AND OLDER

TEMPERATURE OF 100.5° - 104°F: If your child is playing and eating, treat the fever at home. Call the doctor if the fever doesn't go away in 2 days or if your baby is less than 6 months old.

If your child isn't playing or eating and looks sick, call the doctor.

WITH A TEMPERATURE OF 104°F OR HIGHER: Your child may have a bacterial infection and need antibiotics. Call the doctor.

WITH ALL FEVERS

Treat the fever with acetaminophen or ibuprofen. Make sure your child gets lots of rest and drinks plenty of liquids.

CALL THE DOCTOR NOW

or GO TO THE EMERGENCY ROOM when your child

- Is unusually hard to wake up
- Has a blood-like rash under the skin that doesn't fade when it's pressed
- · Has a stiff neck and headache, or if a baby's soft spot is swollen
- Has a convulsion that lasts for more than three minutes





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