

## The Secret Signs of Constipation



It's not always easy to tell when a child (or an adult!) is constipated. In some cases, you have to become a poop detective.

Here are some signs to look out for to determine if you need to start addressing constipation more aggressively in your child:

**Poop streaks or hard-to-wipe poops.** Healthy poops are easy to wipe.

**Diarrhea.** Contrary to common belief, diarrhea is frequently a sign of constipation. It can indicate that the body is so full of poop, only liquids can make their way out.

**Super stinky, frequent farts.** The longer a poop hangs out in the rectum, the more stinky gas it produces.

**Toilet cloggers, cracked poops, and rabbit turds.** Healthy poops are soft and smooth.

**Frequent UTIs.** The bacteria that causes UTIs comes from poop. The more poop hanging out in the rectum, the easier it is to get a UTI.

**Loss of appetite, or having an urge to poop mid-meal.** A belly full of poop has less room for food.

A feeling that poop is stuck. If your child feels like their poop is stuck, it most likely is!

**Wetting the bed or waking up to pee.** A rectum full of poop leaves the bladder with less room to expand as it fills during the night.

## Daytime pee problems.

A belly full of poop can make it hard for the bladder to function properly.

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