Staying healthy when the farm comes to you!

Even healthy, well cared for animals can carry germs that can make people sick

If the farm’s coming to you, follow these simple tips to stay healthy. Children under 5 years of age do not have fully formed immune systems and therefore should not have direct contact with higher risk animals such as calves, goats, chicks, ducklings, reptiles, or amphibians.

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**Keep food and drinks away from visiting animals**

This includes water bottles, sippy cups, and pacifiers. You don’t want to get germs on them.

**Don’t touch your mouth**

That’s how germs get in your body and make you sick.

**Wash your hands**

Wash hands with soap and water after visiting the animals and before eating. Don’t rely on hand sanitizer. It doesn’t work against all germs.

**Wear the right gear**

Wear closed-toe shoes and clothes you can get dirty. When you get home remove your shoes. Change your clothes and wash them.

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[www.health.state.mn.us](http://www.health.state.mn.us)