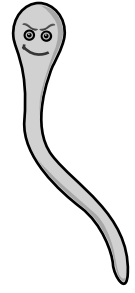


Where do Threadworms Come From?

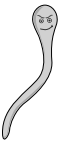


And Where do They go?

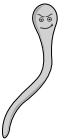
Read this page carefully, then try to think of words or groups of words that could be used instead of the underlined words.



Threadworms spread by producing large numbers of tiny eggs.



These eggs are so small they cannot be seen with the naked eye.



They are present in house dust. They stick to clothing, towels and bed linen. They can be caught by contact with someone who already has worms.



Because the eggs are so small and so widespread, it is very easy for them to be swallowed. When they are swallowed the eggs pass into the intestine (the bowel) where they hatch into worms. When she is mature the female threadworm lays her eggs at night around the bottom (anus).

This causes an 'itchy bottom'.



The itch causes irritation. The irritation causes scratching. Scratching the bottom causes the threadworm eggs to get stuck on the fingers and finger nails. These eggs can easily find their way into the mouth by finger sucking and nail biting which starts the journey of the threadworm through the body all over again.



It can also cause infection to other parts of the family when hands that have scratched the bottom are not washed before they touch bedding, towels and food, for example. Threadworms only affect humans - not pets.



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