Tiny turtles can be trouble!

Pet reptiles, like turtles, can carry germs like *Salmonella* that can make people sick. Turtles can be great pets, but aren’t right for every family. **Children age 5 or younger, older adults over age 65, and those with weak immune systems are at greater risk for severe illness from *Salmonella*.

**How does it spread?**
You can’t see germs like *Salmonella*. The germs can spread when people touch the turtles or objects around where turtles live.

**What are the signs of illness?**
- Diarrhea
- Fever
- Stomach cramps

**How can you prevent it?**
- Children 5 years or younger should avoid contact with reptiles and turtles.
- Wash your hands with soap and warm water after touching turtles or places where turtles live.
- Don’t kiss or snuggle with turtles.

For more information, or to find medical and social services, call 2-1-1

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