

OUT, SPOT

Whatever the kids get into this summer, you can be sure that laundry is going to follow. Active play means stains that can pose a challenge to get out. Here's some tips from the folks in the know at Sunlight.

■ **Mud:** To get it out, let the mud dry; don't attempt to wipe it off. When dry, brush or vacuum the area. Rub liquid detergent into the dirty area and soak for 15 minutes or until the stain no longer remains. If the stain is really persistent, apply a stain remover gel or spray. Wash.

■ **Grass:** This is one of the most common summertime laundry challenges. Start with a pre-soak in detergent and water for 30 minutes. If the stain remains, continue to soak overnight. Wash in the hottest water recommended for the fabric.

■ **Flower pollen:** The bright yellow stain left by pollen is a tough one to get out. Try rubbing with methylated spirits, then sponge with warm water. Wash garment as usual.

■ **Chewing gum:** Start by chilling the fabric with ice to harden the gum. Peel or scrape off the gum, being careful not to damage the fabric. Rub the spot with a bit of liquid detergent, or with a paste of powdered soap and water. Rinse and repeat if necessary. Wash in the hottest water possible for the fabric.

■ **Perspiration:** If the perspiration stain is fresh, apply ammonia to the area. Allow it to sit for a few minutes, then



Here's how to tackle some common summertime stains.

rinse and wash. For older stains, put the area stained-side down on a paper towel and sponge with dry-cleaning solvent. Rinse well, cover the area with a paste of detergent and water, and wash in the hottest water recommended for the fabric.

■ **Bird droppings:** Sh... happens! And not just to the kids. Wipe the area with a paper towel and then wash the garment in warm water. If the stain persists, soak in a mixture of hydrogen peroxide and water (1 part hydrogen peroxide to 6 parts water).



Remember, putting a stained garment in the dryer will only help to set the stain. Make sure the stain is completely out of the garment before drying. 🌿

■ For more information on stain removal, go to www.sunlightlaundry.ca.