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ABSTRACT

This is a curriculum guide for teaching dental health for grades 4-6. Each topic area is outlined under the headings of: (1) reference; (2) major understandings and fundamental concepts; (3) suggested teaching aids and learning activities; and (4) supplementary information for teachers. Main topics include: (1) growth and development of teeth; (2) nutrition and dental health; (3) dental health status; (4) maintaining oral hygiene; and (5) the dentist and dental health. Some of the course objectives are to: (1) develop good dental health habits including personal care and proper diet; (2) understanding the relationship of dental health to appearance; (4) encourage periodic professional dental treatment; (5) avoid accidents to teeth, and (6) help the children understand and avoid habits which adversely affect dental health. (Related documents for other grade levels are CG 007 694 and CG 007 696.) (Author/BW)



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PROTOTYPE

CURRICULUM MATERIALS

FOR THE ELEMENTARY

AND SECONDARY GRADES



STRAND I PHYSICAL HE

DENTAL HEALTH FOR GRADES 4.

SPECIAL EDITION FOR EVALUATION AND DISCUSSION

THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK/THE STATE EDUCATION D
THE CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT CENTER/ALBANY, NEW YORK

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4-6 DENTAL HEALTH

Objectives:

- 1. Develop good dental health habits including personal care and proper diet
- 2. Understand the relationship of dental health to general health
- 3. Appreciate the relationship of dental health to appearance

- 4. Encourage periodic professional dental treatment
 5. Avoid accidents to teeth
 6. Improve the child's dental health status
 7. Help the children understand and avoid habits which adversely affect dental health

I. Growth and Development of Teeth

MAJOR UNDERSTANDINGS AND FUNDAMENTAL CONCEPTS

The teeth are calcified structures fixed in bony sockets in the upper and lower jaws. The parts of a tooth include the:

- . ROOT-which anchors it in the jawbone
- . CROWN-the part which is visible in the mouth
- NECK-which is a slightly narrowed portion where the root and crown meet.

SUGGESTED TEACHING AIDS AND LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Review the developmental facts learned in K-3 dental health concerning the primary and permanent teeth.

Show filmstrip, The Teeth, color, from Stanley Bowmar Co.



MAJOR UNDERSTANDINGS AND FUNDAMENTAL CONCEPTS

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SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION FOR TEACHERS

The characteristic dentition of children five-to-seven and eight-to-nine can be found in the K-3 dental health syllabus.

Characteristic dentition of the ten-to-eleven year old child:

- the primary molars are being shed and replaced by permanent bicuspids.
- there is the eruption of the cuspids and bicuspids.
- . stains frequently occur on the teeth.

Characteristic dentition of the twelve-to-thirteen year old child:

- there is the eruption of the upper and lower second molars
- . an irregular appearance of teeth may occur. A child should visit his dentist to check for malocclusion at this time.
- . except for the third molars (wisdom teeth) the child has 28 of his full complement of 32 permanent teeth. The four third molars will usually appear after age seventeen.

A. The Structure of Teeth

MAJOR UNDERSTANDINGS AND FUNDAMENTAL CONCEPTS

The tooth is composed of four tissues, the:

- ENAMEL a hard, shiny substance covering the crown
- CEMENTUM a bone-like substance covering the root
- DENTIN an ivory-like substance, softer than the enamel, that forms the body of the tooth
- PULP contains nerves, blood vessels, lymphatics, and young cells.

SUGGESTED TEACHING AIRS AND LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Have a student make a not er showing a cross-section picture of a tooth with parts labeled.

Study a cross-section dring or a model of a toot to learn the various par

Look up the derivation o various dental terms suc as peridontal, incisor, and cusp.

Include dental words in smelling lessons. Fourt and fifth grade pupils should be able to spell words such as:

erupt gingia cuspid bacteria bicuspid Novocaine calcium premolar molar fluoride permanent abscess en ame l malocclusi nulp orthodonti decay cusps tartar impact

Show the film, "Teeth Their Structure and Care A.D.A. 11 min. color. sound.



MAJOR UNDERSTANDINGS AND FUNDAMENTAL CONCEPTS

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SUGGESTED TEACHING AIDS AND LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Have a student make a noster showing a cross-section picture of a tooth with all parts labeled.

Study a cross-section drawing or a model of a tooth to learn the various parts.

Look up the derivation of various dental terms such as peridontal, incisor, and cusp.

Include dental words in smelling lessons. Fourth and fifth grade pupils should be able to spell words such as:

erupt gingia cuspid bacteria bicuspid Novocaine calcium premolar molar fluoride permanent abscess en ame l malocclusion pulp orthodontist decav cusps tartar impact

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SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION FOR TEACHERS

The dental pulp, which occupies the chamber in the center of the tooth and the root canal, is composed of connective tissue containing the nerves, arteries, veins, and lymphatics that enter the tooth through an opening at or near the apex of the root.

Make sure the children understand that a tooth is a living thing requiring food and reacting to various stimuli, such as temperature and pressure. The blood vessels in the nulp carry food to the tooth, while the nerve endings in the pulp relay feelings of pair and other sensations to the brain.

The regenerative powers of the pulp tissue are

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MAJOR UNDERSTANDINGS AND FUNDAMENTAL CONCEPTS

SUGGESTED TEACHING AIDS AND LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Make a study of animals' teeth and compare kinds and functions to human teeth. For example, the central incisors, used for cutting food, can be compared to a horse's front teeth which are used for the same purpose.

Compare the animals' teeth to the food they eat. For example, a lion eats meat, hence the use of teeth for tearing food.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION FOR TEACHERS

relatively poor. If decay is allowed to penetrate the protective dentine, a permanent loss of tooth vitality results. Surgical treatment is usually required involving removal of pulp or extration of the tooth.

When jaws are closed, the upper front teeth should slightly overlap the lower front teeth and the cusps of the upper and lower molars fit snugly together to form an effective chewing machine.

Covering the root of the tooth and lining the wall of the socket in the bone is a thin, fragile layer of tissue called the peridontal membrane that helps to:

- hold the tooth in place. cushion the shock of the teeth coming together in chewing
- is important in the development of the tooth and bone support in the socket
- . helps to keep infection localized in the area of the socket
- . provides nutrients to

MAJOR UNDERSTANDINGS AND FUNDAMENTAL CONCEPTS

SUGGESTED TEACHING A AND LEARNING ACTIVIT

the tooth

the peridontal membrane is a continuation of the gums around the roots of the teeth.

B. Types and functions of Teeth

Our teeth help us to:

- chew food for good health
- . speak clearly
- look attractive
- . have proper facial form

Each tooth has a name which indicates its special job in chewing food:

. the four central incisors, two in each jaw, are the center front teeth used to cut food. The crowns are flat and sharp and there is one root.

There are four lateral incisors, one next to each of the central incisors. The lateral incisors also have a flat, sharp crown and are used to cut food.

There are four cusnids; each located just behind the lateral incisors in the corners of the mouth. The crown of the cuspid is

Have each student bite to some wax or other s substance in such a way that the marks left from their incisors show. It them examine the marks learn how the incisors in the upper jaw work those in the lower jaw

Demonstrate with sciss to show how incisors

Have students write or al playlets, poems, or stories that illustrate the functions of each l of tooth.

Using questions compile the class, conduct a que program regarding the development, function, are my, and care of teeth.

Have students make mode of teeth from scap, cla claster, or namer mache

Ask the pupils why it it that they can bite, tes

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MAJOR UNDERSTANDINGS AND FUNDAMENTAL CONCEPTS

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There are four cusnids, each located just behind the lateral incisors in the corners of the mouth. The crown of the cuspid is Have each student bite into some wax or other soft substance in such a way that the marks left from their incisors show. Have them examine the marks to learn how the incisors in in the upper jaw work with those in the lower jaw.

Demonstrate with scissors to show how incisors work.

Have students write original playlets, poems, or stories that illustrate the functions of each kind of tooth.

Ising questions compiled by the class, conduct a quiz program regarding the development, function, anatomy, and care of teeth.

Have students make models of teeth from scap, clay, claster, or paper mache.

Ask the pupils why it is that they can bite, tear,

MAJOR UNDERSTANDINGS AND FUNDAMENTAL CONCEPTS

a single share projection or cusp and there is one root. The cuspids are used for tearing food.

There are eight bicuspids, two of which are located behind each cuspid. The bicuspids, which have two cusps and one or two roots, are used to tear and grind food.

There are twelve molars in all, but the last four, known as wisdom teeth, do not usually erupt until a person is at least seventeen years of age. Three molars are located to the rear of each of the bicuspids. Molars have several cusps and are used to grind food. The upper molars usually have three roots and the lower molars two.

SUGGESTED TEACHING AIDS AND LEARNING ACTIVITIES SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION FOR TEACHERS

and chew food without pain.

Draw pictures of various kinds of teeth showing their functions such as: INCISORS - cutters or

biters

CUSPIDS - have a sharp cusp or point for tearing

MOLARS - grinders BICUSPIDS - have two points or cusps to tear and grind

Obtain a chart of the body's blood supply to the teeth.

Have each child make a booklet showing the dentition characteristics of his age level.

Use a mortar and pestle to grind food (such as grain) to show how molars work.

Examine models of teeth to observe pits and fissures.

MAJOR UNDERSTANDINGS AND FUNDAMENTAL CONCEPTS

SUGGESTED TEACHING AIDS AND LEARNING ACTIVITIES

CHART SHOWING RE

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Primary (20)

Four central incisors

Four lateral incisors

Four cuspids rep

Four first molars

Four second molars

II. Nutrition and Dental Health

Foods necessary for maintaining oral health are the same as those needed for general physical health.

Highly refined and over cooked soft foods tend to

Review the dietary requirements for good mouth health learned in K-3 dental health concerning a wellbalanced diet, effect of sweets, etc.

Plan a well-balanced meal for the school cafeteria



UNDERSTANDINGS AND AMENTAL CONCEPTS

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Plan a well-balanced meal

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SUGGESTED TEACHING AIDS AND LEARNING ACTIVITIES

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION FOR TEACHERS

teeth by the acid each time

Eating of granular, fibrous foods, such as fresh fruits

sugar is eaten.

CHART SHOWING REPLACEMENT

Primary (20)		Permanent (32)	
Four central incisors	replaced by	Four central incisors	
Four lateral incisors	replaced by	Four lateral incisors	
Four cuspids	replaced by	Four cuspids	
Four first molars	replaced by	Four first bicuspids	
Four second molars	replaced by	Four second bicuspids	
		Four first molars	
		Four second molars	
		Four third molars (wisdom teeth)	
Review the dietary requirements for good mouth health learned in K-3 dental health concerning a well-halanced diet, effect of sweets at a fresh attack upon the			

MAJOR UNDERSTANDINGS AND FUNDAMENTAL CONCEPTS

impact between the teeth and cling to their surfaces.

SUGGESTED TEACHING AIDS AND LEARNING ACTIVITIES

avoiding sweets.

Coarse foods, such as anples, oranges, cucumbers, celery and carrots help to clean and brush the teeth. Coarse foods also stimulate the gums.

The use of fresh fruits and vegetables, milk, and juices for between meal snacks is better for your teeth and general health than sweet snacks.

Vitamins A, C, and D, as well as the minerals calcium and phosphorus, are especially important for good dental health.

- . VITAMIN A aids in the deposition of calcium and phosphorus in the teeth during the Period of development
- . VITAMIN C helps to make

Observe the teeth of a dog to show the benefit of chewing coarse foods which are low in sugars.

Prepare, as a group, such snacks as apple slices, dried fruit, celery, carrot sticks, and nuts that can be eaten between meals. Discuss how satisfying they are to the appetite and the values of each kind of snack. Note how celery and carrot sticks help to cleanse the teeth.

Have the students find and list the most common sources of vitamins C and D and the minerals calcium and phosphorus.

Have students bring in and analyze a typical week's menu in terms of foods that are detrimental to good dental health.

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SUGGESTED TEACHING AIDS AND LEARNING ACTIVITIES SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION FOR TEACHERS

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avoiding sweets.

and vegetables, is beneficial to the health of the teeth and gums. Highly cooked, refined foods often impact between the teeth and cling to their surfaces whereas the coarse foods tend to brush off and clean the teeth.

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Have the students find and list the most common sources of vitamins C and D and the minerals calcium and phosphorus.

Have students bring in and analyze a typical week's menu in terms of foods that are detrimental to good dental health.

Chewing coarse foods also will cause the teeth to move up and down slightly in their sockets, which is conducive to their health.

There is a substantial amount of sugar in most popular foods. For example:

ITEM AMOUNT OF SUGAR coca-cola 6oz. 4 1/3tsp. root beer 10oz. 4 1/2tsp. candy bar 1-5oz. 5-10tsp. cherry pie 1 slice 10tsp.

Consult the nutrition syllabus, 4-6, for the sources of vitamins A, C, and D and the minerals calcium and phosphorus.

A lack of vitamin C can

MAJOR UNDERSTANDINGS AND FUNDAMENTAL CONCEPTS

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VITAMIN D helps to absorb calcium from the digestive tract and build calcium and phosphorus into teeth and bones during the period of development.

SUGGESTED TEACHING AIDS AND LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Discuss possible changes that could be made in the diets to improve dental health.

Have a committee prepare posters and charts of food which are rich in minerals and vitamins. Discuss the mineral needs for sound tooth improvement.

III. Dental Health Status

A. Malocclusion

Malocclusion is the term applied to irregularities in the position of the teeth and the improper coming together of the teeth upon closing the jaw.

There are two general causes of malocclusion. One is heredity, such as tooth size and jaw structure. The other cause is due to poor dental health habits such as:

- . thumb and finger sucking
- . chewing on foreign objects
- . lip biting
- . mouth breathing
- the early loss of primary or permanent teeth as a result of poor dental care

Study drawings of malocclu sion, avoiding personal reference to children who have irregular teeth. Discuss the probable causes.

Procure from a dentist some discarded X-rays or casts of the teeth and look for:

- . teeth that may be out of position
- . impacted teeth
- . malformed roots
- . orthodontic braces and space maintainers

Draw pictures and cartoons showing how teeth affect personal appearances.

Make pictures and posters illustrating dental



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SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION FOR TEACHRES

cause bleeding of the gums.

In studies, the addition of the essential aminoacid lysine to controlled diets has effectively prevented dental caries in rats. (National Institute of Dental Research)

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- . impacted teeth
- . malformed roots
- . orthodontic braces and space maintainers

Praw pictures and cartoons showing how teeth affect personal appearances.

Make pictures and posters illustrating dental

Malocclusion develops most commonly during the time when a child is losing his primary teeth and his permanent teeth are erupting.

The heredity factors involved with malocclusion

- . the eruption of the teeth more advanced than the growth of the jaws
- . narrow dental arches
- shedding of the deciduous teeth too early
- . nrolonged retention of the deciduous teeth

The early loss of primary or permanent teeth as a result of poor dental care may result in a drifting

MAJOR UNDERSTANDINGS AND FUNDAMENTAL CONCEPTS

SUGGESTED TEACHING AIDS AND LEARNING ACTIVITIES

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irregularities caused by loss of teeth.

Study the costs of preventive dentistry as compared to remedial treatment.

Discuss photographs or slides showing "before and after" in orthodontic cases. If possible, obtain X-rays or casts of before and after cases from an SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION FOR TEACHERS

out of position of the teeth erupting adjacent to or opposite the space left by a lost tooth.

Malocclusion usually interferes with the chewing of food.

Malocclusion affects the appearance of the teeth and may cause facial deformities.

Malocclusion can often be prevented by proper professional dental care from infancy.

Malocclusion can often be corrected by your dentist or a specialist known as an orthodontist.

Malocclusion makes it difficult to keep the teeth clean. Discuss the effects of poor bite on chewing food, speech patterns, and appearance.

orthodontist.

Invite the Dental Hygiene Teacher to discuss with the class the importance of a "good bite." The harmful effects of malocclusion may include the:

- . interference with proper chewing of food, causing an individual to select foods not suitable for adequate nutrition
- . causing of facial deformities
- . problem of speech defects
- possibility of social and emotional disturbances
- . increased possibility of tooth decay
- . difficulty of keeping the teeth clean
- possibility of periodontal (or gum) disease in later life

MAJOR UNDERSTANDINGS AND FUNDAMENTAL CONCEPTS

SUGGESTED TEACHING AIDS AND LEARNING ACTIVITIES

B. Dental Caries

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tal er Caries begin with a small hole, usually in a fissure or flaw of a tooth, in an area where food may become lodged, or where it is difficult to remove food by brushing.

Review the causes, effects, and treatment of dental caries learned in the K-3 dental health program.

Obtain and examine some molars for fissures or flaws that would be conducive to the development of caries.

Using mirrors, have children examine their own teeth to find areas where food may become lodged or where it is difficult to remove by brushing.



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SUGGESTED TEACHING AIDS AND LEARNING ACTIVITIES

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There is no "right" time to break thumb sucking habits: although the sooner it is done, the better.

The causes, effects, and treatment of dental caries can be found on page four of the K-3 dental health syllabus.

Research has established the fact that dental caries is caused by the action of bacteria on fermentable carbohydrates, principally sugar, in the mouth. Fermentation caused by the action of bacteria produces acids which can dissolve tooth enamel.

The most significant factors in the cause of damage to the teeth by caries are:

- . the presence of dental plaques
- . the strength of the acids and the ability of the saliva to neutralize them
- . the length of time the acids are in contact with the teeth
- . susceptibility of the teeth to decay

MAJOR UNDERSTANDINGS AND FUNDAMENTAL CONCEPTS

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Unless small cavities are filled, the decay will penetrate the dentin.

Decay progresses rapidly in dentin because it is softer than enamel.

When decay reaches the pulp, the blood vessels and nerves become infected and an abcess will probably form.

There is usually soreness, pulsating pain, and swelling with the abscess.

The extent of damage may be determined by the dentist with an X-ray.

Sometimes such a tooth may have to be extracted.

Bacteria are in a gelatinlike mass known as dental plaque. A simple dramatic test that can be used to detect dental plaque deposits is the application to the teeth of a harmless food dye which will stain clumps of material sticking to the teeth.

Review the structure of a tooth, then discuss the process of decay from the enamel and the dentin to the pulp. Discuss the importance of early detection and treatment of caries.

Have the students explain the danger of decay in a tooth in relation to adjacent teeth. Make a study of new types of preventives for dental decay, through popular current magazines and from family dentist.

Show movie, "Save Those Teeth," Stanley Bowmar Co., b&w.

Using saliva cultures, conduct bacterial growth experiments to show rapid growth of bacteria.

Dental plaques are a gluely, gelatin-like substance that adhere to the teeth and afford protection for the bacteria.

The initial action that causes damage to a tooth occurs under a dental plaque.

The foods most easily converted into acids are fermentable sugars, some of which are converted into acids within five to ten minutes after thay are taken into the mouth. A longer period may be required for the same process to occur with other foods.

Dental decay cannot be produced in germfree animals. (National Institute of Dental Research)



MAJOR UNDERSTANDINGS AND FUNDAMENTAL CONCEPTS

Bacteria live on sweets which they convert to an acid which dissolves the tooth enamel, thus starting the decay process.

SUGGESTED TEACHING AIDS AND LFARNING ACTIVITIES

Procure from a dentist some discarded X-rays and look for:

- . decay
- . small hidden cavities
- . fillings
- . abscesses

Examine tooth decay bacteria under a microscope.

Make posters and pictures illustrating:

- . steps in tooth decay
- . abcess on roots of teeth

Have the children make up graphs which indicate the occurence of dental decay in the class.

C. Periodontal Disease

Diseases of the gums and other supporting structures of the teeth are called periodontal diseases.

Obtain from a local dentist a series of slides showing stages of meriodontal diseases.

The most common periodontal diseases are:

. GINGIVITIS, or inflamation of the gums. in which the gums are red, puffy, and may bleed easily.

Invite a dentist or dental hygiene teacher or dental hygienist to discuss the cause, effect, and treatment of periodontal diseases.

Have the students write short compositions on various dental diseases and how they can be prevented.

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Periodontal is derived from the Greek, the prefix, "peri" meaning "around," and "ondontos" meaning "tooth".

Gingivitis is caused by an accumulation of soft and hard deposits (tartar), packing of food between the teeth, lack of proper tooth-brushing, injury, or poor nutrition.

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MAJOR UNDERSTANDIGS AND FUNDAMENTAL CONCEPTS

which attacks the gums and tissues of the mouth and throat, causes swollen, easy to bleed tissues that are tender and painful. It also causes bad breath.

. PERIODONTITIS usually originates as gingivitis. As the inflamation spreads showing the stages of the gum withdraws from the tooth, forming a pocket which fills with bacteria and pus. This weakens the support of the tooth and may cause its loss.

Peridontal diseases can best be prevented by:

- . proper tooth brushing including the massaging of the gums
- . a well-balanced diet
- . regular visits to the dentist

The loss of teeth in adults is commonly caused by periodontal disease.

SUGGESTED TEACHING AIDS AND LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Make posters or arrange a bulletin board display periodontal disease. Include a poster or section on prevention of these diseases.

Discuss the importance of maintaining the permanent teeth and good oral health throughout life.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION FOR TEACHERS

commonly known as "trench mouth", is often seen in adolescence or early adulthood, 12-18 years. It is non-contagious.

Vincents' Infection may follow illness, dietary deficiency, or emotional upset.

Periodontitis frequently starts during the latter part of mixed dentition (eight to twelve years).

The removal of tartar by a dentist is important in the prevention of gingivitis and periodontitis.

Canker sores, which are usually single small ulcers in the lining of the mouth, are not considered to be a periodontal disease. They are probably caused by a virus and usually heal in from eight to ten days. A dentist can treat canker sores to relieve the pain associated with them. However, certain kinds tend to persist or to come back in spite of any treatment known.



MAJOR UNDERSTANDINGS AND FUNDAMENTAL CONCPETS

SUGGESTED TEACHIN AND LEARNING ACTI

D. Traumatic Injury

Traumatic injury can crack, loosen, or knock out teeth.

Traumatic injury to the facial bones and tissues can cause malocclusion and affect speech patterns and personal appearance.

Invite the dental h teacher to discuss onstrate the recomm first aid procedure cases of accidental to the teeth or the porting structure.

Stress the importan immediate attention broken or loosened

E. Missing Teeth

Teeth work in pairs. When one is missing, its mate cannot work well.

Stress the fact that tooth has a proper : tion to the teeth or side of it and to the teeth it bites again when the jaws close

Premature loss of primary teeth is the most frequent cause of malocclusion.

Have a committee of dren make posters sh dental irregularitic caused by loss of to

Missing teeth may cause other teeth to shift positions, causing an interference with chewing and destroying the normal symmetry of the face and jaw.

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ERSTANDINGS AND NTAL CONCPETS

SUGGESTED TEACHING AIDS AND LEARNING ACTIVITIES SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION FOR TEACHEPS

knock out teeth.

injury to the es and tissues malocclusion and ech patterns and ppearance.

injury can crack, Invite the dental hygiene teacher to discuss and demonstrate the recommended first aid procedures in cases of accidental injury to the teeth or their supporting structure.

> Stress the importance of immediate attention to broken or loosened teeth.

The maxillary or upper front teeth are the most frequently injured.

It is possible for a dentist to cap temporarily a fractured tooth until permanent repair can be made.

If a tooth is completely knocked out, immediate reimplantation may be pc,sible if the tooth is dropped into a glass of water and the tooth and child are rushed to the dentist.

in pairs. When ing, its mate well.

Stress the fact that each tooth has a proper relation to the teeth on each side of it and to the teeth it bites against when the jaws close.

loss of primary e most frequent locclusion.

Have a committee of children make posters showing dental irregularities caused by loss of teeth.

Space maintainers can be placed when primary teeth are lost early, thus lessening or even preventing more complicated treatment later.

A fixed bridge is supported by crowns and inlays on the abutment teeth which stabilizes these teeth, thus preventing a drifting or movement which may lead to serious malposition.

th may cause to shift posiing an interh chewing and the normal syme face and jaw.



IV. Maintaining Oral

A. Techniques of home

Hygiene

care

MAJOR UNDERSTANDINGS AND FUNDAMENTAL CONCEPTS

Missing permanent teeth are replaced with appliances known as partial dentures.

- . A fixed partial denture is used when the space made by missing teeth is between two teeth.
- A removable partial denture must be used when there is no tooth behind the space.

Proper home care of the teeth is one of the most important single contribution of mouth health.

- Brushing regularly is the basis for home care of the teeth. The dentrifice used serves three purposes:
- . to assist the toothbrush in freeing debris and stain from the accessible surfaces of the teeth
- . to aid as a caries preventive agent
- preventing and controling mouth odors

Massaging the gums:

. promotes a better distribution of blood to all parts of the tissues.

SUGGESTED TEACHING AIDS AND LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Obtain discarded partial dentures from a dental office. Examine, discuss, and demonstrate their value and method of attachment.

Discuss the problems caused by missing teeth and the necessity of professional dental care to prevent or control these problems.

Review the techniques and importance of proper brushing covered in grades K-3.

Show movie, You can Prevent Tooth Decay, A.D.A. Discuss why, when, and how we brush our teeth.

Assign class members to collect dental products advertisements. Discuss the scientific accuracy of the claims made.

Show movie, Three Cheers for a Big Smile, National Dairy Council.

Have some students demonstrate various methods of massaging the gums:

. While brushing their teeth



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Have some students demonstrate various methods of massaging the gums:

. While brushing their teeth

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION FOR TEACHERS

Both fixed and removable partial dentures may be used to replace one or several missing teeth.

Techniques of brushing the teeth can be found on pages 2 and 3 of the K-3 dental health syllabus.

A dentifrice, in itself, will not prevent dental caries. However, the usefulness of stannous fluoride dentifrice as a caries preventive agent is recognized by the Council on Dental Therapeutics of the American Dental Association.

One way to message the gums is with toothpaste placed on the thumb and forfinger. Rub the gums with a circular motion.

MAJOR UNDERSTANDINGS AND FUNDAMENTAL CONCEPTS

next to the teeth.

serves as a stimulant
to the blood stream and
brings about relaxation
of the nerves by relieving congestion.

will make the mouth feel better and cause the gums to become firmer and healthier.

SUGGESTED TEACHING AIDS AND LEARNING ACTIVITIES

- . with a rubber-tipped
 brush
- . with a clean index finger and thumb

Have the children evaluate dentifrice advertisements.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION FOR TEACHERS

Using the proper method of toothbrushing will both massage the gums and clean the teeth.

A rubber tip device on the end of a toothbrush should be used only on the recommendation of a dentist and after careful instructions have been given.

The use of foreign objects in the mouth, smoking, or neglected teeth may cause an irritation of the teeth and oral tissues that may lead to oral cancer.

A water pick, which essentially does the same job as dental tape or floss, is recommended by many dentists.

Dentists discourage the use of toothpicks because of possible injury to the gum.

Most commercial mouthwashes consist mainly of flavored, sweetened colored water.

Rinsing the mouth helps to remove loose particles of food from the teeth and mouth. The mouth should be rinsed thoroughly both before and after brushing the teeth.

In reference to rinsing, point out that:

- . pure water is a satisfactory mouthwash
- . the usual commercial mouthwash has no medicinal value.
- . a medicinal mouthwash should not be used unless



MAJOR UNDERSTANDINGS AND FUNDAMENTAL CONCEPTS

SUGGESTED TEACHING AIDS AND LEARNING ACTIVITIES

prescribed by a dentist for certain conditions of the gums and other tissues of the mouth.

Dental tape, or dental floss, can be used to remove food particles wedged between the teeth beyond the reach of the toothbrush. Have a dentist or dental hygiene teacher explain the purpose and techniques of using dental tape or dental floss. Special care must be taken to avoid injury to the fragile gingival tissues between the teeth.

B. Safety

Most traumatic injuries to the teeth and oral tissues can be prevented. Discuss and list on the blackboard such unsafe actions as:

- pushing and shoving at drinking fountains
- running, walking or riding with sharp or pointed objects in the mouth
- . biting on hard objects
- . careless riding of bicycles
- . carelessly throwing objects
- . rushing, shoving, and tripping
- cracking nuts or opening soda bottles with the teeth

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Dental tape may be obtained in several thicknesses; the need depending on the space between the teeth. Dental tape or floss should be used with great care and only on advice of the dentist because of possible harm to the soft tissue around the teeth.

Contrary to many advertising campaigns, chewing gum is not a dental aid.

c injuries and oral tisrevented. Discuss and list on the blackboard such unsafe actions as:

- pushing and shoving at drinking fountains
- running, walking or riding with sharp or pointed objects in the mouth
- . biting on hard objects
- . careless riding of bicycles
- . carelessly throwing objects
- . Pushing, shoving, and tripping
- . cracking nuts or opening soda bottles with the teeth

MAJOR UNDERSTANDINGS AND FUNDAMENTAL CONCEPTS

SUGGESTED TEACHING AND LEARNING ACTIV

In competitive sports, teeth, Have the children d Sace, and mouth can be protected by wearing fitted mouth or face protectors.

rules for dental sa school and at home. could be the basis bulletin board disp

C. Habits

Lip biting, persistent sucking, chewing on foreign objects, and other poor habits may cause malocclusion, oral infection, chipping of the teeth, and other dental health problems.

Discuss and list on blackboard good and dental health habits plore the formation habits, and why subs ing a good habit is the best way to brea poor habit. Ask why often hard to break habits even if you w



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SUGGESTED TEACHING AIDS AND LEARNING ACTIVITIES

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION FOR TEACHERS

etitive sports, teeth, Have the children develop nd mouth can be proby wearing fitted r face protectors.

rules for dental safety at school and at home. This could be the basis of a bulletin board display.

Mouth protectors made of soft rubber or plastic help to reduce sudden shock to the teeth.

Parents and teachers must constantly impress upon children the danger of unsafe actions and insist on adherence to safety procedures.

Mechanical water irrigating devices are useful in removing lose debris from areas inaccessible to the toothbrush. They should be used only on the recommendation of the dentist.

Discuss and list on the blackboard good and poor dental health habits. Explore the formation of habits, and why substituting a good habit is often the best way to break a poor habit. Ask why it is

often hard to break bad

habits even if you want to.

Consult the K-3 Dental Health Syllabus, page 3, for additional information on poor dental health habits. Use a positive approach. Don't embarrass children who still suck their thumbs or have similar habits. Each case should be dealt with carefully or an individual basis.

Chewing on foreign objects may injure the teeth and membranes which support the teeth.

ng, persistent chewing on forects, and other poor ay cause malocclual infection, chipthe teeth, and ntal health prob-

MAJOR UNDERSTANDINGS AND FUNDAMENTAL CONCEPTS

SUGGESTED TEACHING AIDS AND LEARNING ACTIVITIES

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D. Halitosis

The primary cause of halitosis, or bad breath, is lack of proper oral hygiene.

Other causes of halitosis are:

- . infected teeth or gums
- . periodontal disease
- . stomach disorders
- . certain types of food. such as raw onions. cause temporary hali-
- . infections, in the nose, throat and lungs
- . lung cancer
- . smoking
- . diabetes

Have the children bring in reports on various television, newspaper, and magazine advertisements pertaining to products that "sweeten" or "clean" a user's breath. These could form the basis of a report and discussion on halitosis. Also, an evaluation of such advertisements could be made in terms of scientific accuracy, and a conclusion reached as to the best ways to maintain oral hygiene and prevent bad breath could be reached.

Use the magazine and newspaper advertisements mentioned above in a bulletin board display pertaining to halitosis and other dental health problems.

Such a display should be balanced with one showing the social advantages of good dental health.

V. Dentist and Dental

All dental decay cannot be prevented, so there is no substitute for regular visits to the dentist.

Give either an oral or a written pretest to determine how much the children already know about the responsibilities of a dentist and the importance of regular professional care.

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SUGGESTED TEACHING AIDS AND LEARNING ACTIVITIES

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SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION FOR TEACHERS

A discussion of halitosis and commercial remedies should reveal that the best method to maintain oral hygiene is through the proper techniques of home care previously discussed and regular professional care.

Pages 5 and 6 in the K-3 Dental Health Syllabus pertain to the work of the dentist and professional care.

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A. Preventive Examination and Treatment

MAJOR UNDERSTANDINGS AND FUNDAMENTAL CONCEPTS

The work of the dentist falls into two groups:

- . PREVENTIVE to avoid possible dental health problems
- REMEDIAL to correct existing dental health problems

SUGGESTED TEACHING AIDS

Discuss the statement. "Regular dental care is less expensive than 'emergency' care," in terms of mouth health as well as financial cost.

Have the children prepare a television commercial or short play recommending periodic professional examination.

Write letters to make an appointment with the dentist.

Dental X-rays are especially valuable in preventive dentistry.

When there are teeth missing, a dentist may prescribe and fit artificial teeth and dentures.

Careful cleaning of the teeth by a dentist or dental hygienist consists of the removal of all foreign material from the crowns of the teeth and the smoothing and polishing of tooth surfaces to:

- . improve appearance
- . prevent damage to the gums which may result due to the irritation

Compare periodic "checkups" for the family car to periodic dental health 'check-ups'. (less costly smoother functioning, etc.) Invite a dentist to show the use of various instruments and answer questions pertaining to fillings, cleaning, X-rays, etc.

Have children list why dental X-rays are important.

Procure from a dentist some discarded X-rays and look for:

- . bony destruction in pyorrhea cases.
- . decay
- . teeth that may be out of position

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SUGGESTED TEACHING AIDS AND LEARNING ACTIVITIES

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Procure from a dentist some discarded X-rays and look for:

- bony destruction in pyorrhea cases.
- . decay
- teeth that may be out of position

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION FOR TEACHERS

Make sure that the children understand the relationship of dental health to general health, i.e.:

- . chewing food is important; decayed teeth and sore gums will not permit one to chew efficiently.
- infection from diseased teeth can be carried through the blood stream to other parts of the body and set up another focus of infection.

Dental X-rays are used to:

- . reveal the beginning of decay
- . determine if permanent teeth are in normal position
- . detect small, hidden
 cavities
- . locate tartar or calculus deposits
- reveal presence of impacted teeth, malformed roots, abscesses, cysts, tumors, and foreign bodies that may be present in the jaws.

Professional dental care can arrest the progress of infections that originate in the teeth, tongue,

the

MAJOR UNDERSTANDINGS AND FUNDAMENTAL CONCEPTS

from tartar or calculus deposits reduce adhesion of food debris and plaque to make brushing easier.

SUGGESTED TEACHING AIDS AND LEARNING ACTIVITIES

- . small hidden cavities
- . impacted teeth
- . malformed roots

List and discuss preventive practices such as fillings cleaning, fluoride applications, etc.

Show film, Inside Story, A.D.A., 10 min. b&w. s.

B. Surgical Treatment

In cases of advanced dental decay, advanced periodontal disease, severe traumatic injury, tumors, or tooth mouth rehabilitation, and jaw deformity, surgical treatment may be required. Have a dental surgeon give an illustrated talk on the why and how aspects of den tal surgery.

C. Orthodontist

An orthodontist is a dentist who has been specially trained to straighten teeth and oral bone structure in order to:

Obtain X-rays, pictures, or stone cases showing before and after cases of malocclusion treated by an orthodontist.



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SUGGESTED TEACHING AIDS AND LEARNING ACTIVITIES

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Have a dental surgeon give an illustrated talk on the why and how aspects of dental surgery.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION FOR TEACHERS

lips, jaws, and associated structures.

Consult section 3E of this unit for information on artificial teeth.

Surgical treatment includes:

- . extractions
- . removal of diseased oral tissues both hard and soft tissues
- . tiring of the jaws in cases of severe fracture or othodontal care
- . capping of the teeth
- . application on inlays and bridgework
- . oral bone and soft tissue
- . correction of congenital deformities such as cleft palate and hare lip (Usually in cooperation with a plastic surgeon and an orthodontist)
- . preparation of teeth for fillings

Obtain X-rays, pictures, or stone cases showing before and after cases of malocclusion treated by an orthodontist.

Much of the work done by an othodontist has an effect on the emotional and personality development of children. Irregular teeth

thodontist is a st who has been spely trained to straighteth and oral bone ture in order to:



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MAJOR UNDERSTANDINGS AND FUNDAMENTAL CONCEPTS

SUGGESTED TEACHING AIDS AND LEARNING ACTIVITIES

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- . improve appearance
- . correct malocclusion
- . correct irregularities of teeth and biting relationships for more efficient digestive function

Children who have had orthodontal work may wish to discuss this with the class

or a cause shy, where is a self-

Obtain pictures of braces or discarded braces from an orthodontist to serve as the basis of a discussion.

Discuss the importance of orthodontal correction in terms of emotional as well as general health.

D. Fluoridation or Topical Fluoride Application

Fluoride solutions make the teeth more resistent to dental caries.

The addition of fluorides

to water is the most ef-

fective and least expen-

sive dental caries pre-

ventive available.

After a period of research, debate the topic, "To Fluoridate or Not: That is the Question."

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Show film, "Fluoridation," A.D.A. 5 min. color. sound.

Interview members of the local water department to

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local water department to find the cost of fluoridation and the procedure for initiating such a program.

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The daily use of fluoride tablets, as prescribed by a dentist, has been shown to cause a significent reduction in dental caries.

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Interview members of the local water department to find the cost of fluoridation and the procedure for initiating such a program.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION FOR TEACHERS

or a receding jaw line cause some people to become shy, morose, or antisocial, whereas a good set of teeth is a source of pride and self-confidence.

Consult page 5 of the K-3 Dental Health Syllabus for a list of the scientific and medical groups which support fluoridation.

The average cost of fluoridation in a community water sunnly is ten cents per nerson annually, including the cost of equipment and annual expenditures for chemicals and labor.

Fluoride treatment by any method usually results in a sixty to sixty-five percent reduction in caries in young children.

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MAJOR UNDERSTANDINGS AND FUNDAMENTAL CONCEPTS

Topical application of fluorides makes the enamel of the tooth more resistent cedure for applying topto mouth acids.

SUGGESTED TEACHING AIDS AND LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Call in dental hygiene teacher to demonstrate proical fluoride.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION FOR TEACHERS

Children who drink fluoride water from birth mature with two-thirds less tooth decay and stronger, straighter teeth.

Recent research shows that adding phosphates to topical fluoride solutions appears to increase their ability to control tooth decay. Similarly, adding phosphate to a fluoride dentifrice seems to improve its effectiveness.

In preliminary laboratory studies, a solution containing traces of calcium, phosphate, and fluoride has been found effective in rehardening tooth enamel.



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	Carl H. Pforzheimer, Jr., A.B., M.B.A., D.C.S., H.H.D	Purchase
19 75	Edward M. M. Warburg, B.S., L.H.D	New York
1977	Joseph T. King, LL.B	Queens
1974	Joseph C. Indelicato, M.D	Brooklyn
1976	Mrs. Helen B. Power, A.B., Litt.D., L.H.D	Rochester
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