

What to do when your child is afraid of the Dentist

- 1) Read books to your child about going to the dentist to help them relax.
- 2) If you are relaxed about going to the dentist, your child is less likely to be afraid.
- 3) Please <u>do not</u> talk to your child <u>or in front of your child</u> about a bad or scary experience you or someone else has had in the dental office.

 Remember, they are listening and it can make them very fearful.
- 4) Tell them about going to the dentist in a friendly and positive manner.

 Do not talk about being afraid or about pain.
- 5) Think about which time of day might work best for your child. Taking your child later in the day when the child is tired might not be the best time.
- 6) Let the dental team explain to your child what will happen in child friendly words.

Child friendly words we use

Nitrous Ice Cream Air Sealants - Tooth paint / nail polish - Sleepy Jelly Topical Cavities - Sugar Bug Bites - Sleepy Spray Injection Fillings - Cleaning out sugar bugs Mouth Prop - Chicken Nugget and placing play dough Rubber Dam -Rain Coat SS Crown - Silver tooth hat / helmet Rubber Dam Clamp - Tooth Ring Extraction - Wiggle

Parents are welcome to accompany their child to the treatment area during most dental visits. We do ask that if you accompany your child you assume the role of a silent observer. If more than one person is speaking to your child they may become confused. Cooperation and trust must be established directly between the doctor or hygienist and your child.

Our goal is to provide a very positive dental experience for every child.