

Setting a strong foundation for kids' oral care

Because healthy oral care impacts general well-being and quality of life, it's important to instill good habits in children from an early age.

	Infants & toddlers (ages 0–3)	Preschool (ages 3–6)	Elementary school (ages 6-11)	Tweens/Teens (ages 11–16)
	y Solo			
Dental visits	Start dental cleaning and examinations before year 1	Visit dental office 2 times a year Topical fluoride application as needed for kids ages 3+	X-rays as needed Sealants on permanent molars Orthodontic evaluation as needed	 X-rays as needed Sealants on permanent molars Orthodontic evaluation as needed Evaluate and remove third molars (wisdom teeth) if needed
At home	Consider fluoride supplement for children starting at 6 months (in non-fluoridated communities) Wean off non-nutritive sucking habits like pacifiers and thumb-sucking by 2½	Establish a dental home care routine	Consider an athletic mouthguard as needed	Consider an athletic mouthguard as needed Discourage use of tobacco products

Caring for healthy smiles

Diet guidelines for good oral care



Only put babies to bed with a bottle of water, never milk or juice. Limit or avoid sugary snacks and be sure to clean oral tissues and teeth for them until age 3.



As kids grow, encourage a healthy diet and continue to limit or avoid sugary snacks and drinks.

When primary and permanent teeth erupt



Primary teeth usually begin to appear around 6 months and fall out throughout childhood.



Permanent teeth usually start erupting around age 6 and finish by age 21.

Keeping gums healthy



Encourage kids 6 and older to floss or use other interdental cleaners to minimize risk of gum disease.

The importance of dental sealants



Dental sealants can help protect molars from cavities by applying a thin coating of resin material that keeps out bacteria and food particles.

Encouraging healthy habits from an early age

It's important to establish a consistent oral care routine for your child. Even before their first tooth erupts, you can clean the mouth and gums with a damp washcloth after eating.











Brush

Brush teeth twice a day for two minutes with a small smear of fluoride toothpaste. The right tool and technique make all the difference.

Interdental cleaning

For kids ages 6 and up, the spaces between teeth are home to harmful bacteria, so clean them thoroughly for healthy teeth and gums.

Rinse

For kids ages 11 and up, using a therapeutic mouthwash can help reduce bacteria that cause gum disease and bad breath.

Replace

Replace brush heads every three months for optimal results. Choose one with an ageappropriate design.

a manual toothbrush with extra-long bristles that clean better between teeth.

Checkups

Visit the dental office two times a year.

The right oral care for developing smiles ProtectiveClean and **ExpertClean power** toothbrushes **Sonicare Sonicare For Kids App** for older kids include keeps children engaged **Power Flosser** more features that provide for longer while guiding a more customized is clinically proven them to brush properly and experience, including to remove up to develop healthy habits. different modes, intensity 99.9% of plaque Ages from treated areas* settings, a pressure 10-16 indicator and more. BreathRx mouth rinse and TongueCare+ brush head disrupt bacteria that cause bad breath and gum disease. Sonicare For Kids offers up to 75% more plaque removal in hard-to-reach areas than a children's manual toothbrush. Sonicare InterCare brush head removes up to 7x more plaque than

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^{*} In an in-vitro study, actual in-mouth results may vary