LET’S SHARE A SMILE (LEVEL 3)

Description Teach your child how to take care of her or his teeth and develop healthy oral hygiene habits

Leading Question How can we maintain healthy teeth?

Total Time Required 6.6 hours over 6 days

Supplies Required Notebook/paper, pen/pencil, eggs, vinegar, water, soft drink (any), any toothpaste with fluoride (check the label), 4 jars or bottles with cap

Learning Outcomes 1. Structure of tooth
2. Good oral hygiene habits
3. Good and bad foods for teeth
4. What causes tooth decay
5. How to prevent tooth decay

Previous Learning None.

DAY 1

Today you will learn about parts of a tooth and good oral hygiene habits.

Suggested Duration Activity and Description

20 minutes ● Reflect on why you think teeth are important and write a paragraph on the importance of teeth and what you do to keep their teeth healthy (without looking at the table below). You can also think about a time when you hurt your teeth and describe how it felt and what you did to remedy their pain.

● Compare your list of healthy teeth habits to the activities in this table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
<th>Sunday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brushing teeth</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Brushing teeth for 2 to 3 mins
Avoid Sugary drinks and candies
Clean tongue (prevents bad breath)

10 minutes
- Make the table in your notebook. The table needs to be maintained for the whole week. All the activities mentioned in the table are to be done on a daily basis and recorded with a tick mark. These activities are required to maintain good oral hygiene.

10 minutes
- What do you think the inside of a tooth looks like?
- Draw the structure of a tooth without looking at it.

10 minutes
- Then look at the image, compare it and then make the required adjustments or draw a new figure as shown on image 1 below in your notebook. Use the word bank to attempt to label the diagram of the tooth in their notebook.
- Once you have attempted to label the diagram, compare it to the labelled diagram in image 2.
- Image 1:
DAY 2

Today you will carry out an experiment with the objective of learning about what causes tooth decay and how to prevent it.

5 minutes

- Numeracy activities:
  - How many parts in the labelled diagram did you get right? Calculate percentage of right answers. (hint: divide the number of right answers by the total number of parts and multiply the result by 100)

Source: https://www.trianglepediatricdentistry.com/all-about-primary-teeth/

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Suggested Duration</th>
<th>Activity and Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>10 minutes</strong></td>
<td>● Brainstorm and list down in your notebook the food you think can cause tooth decay along with a brief explanation. You will get the answer to this question after the experiment.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **40 minutes**     | ● Get four jars or bottles with caps and pour vinegar in two of them and pour water and soft drink in the other two jars. Coat one egg with fluoride toothpaste and gently drop it in a jar with vinegar. Gently drop 3 uncoated eggs into jars with vinegar, water and soft drink, making sure that the eggs don’t break while dropping them in the jar. Then close the jars and let the eggs stay for 5 days. Note down the condition of the eggshells on each day for a total of 5 days.
  ● Note: Eggshells are one of the best substitutes for teeth as they are made up of the same chemicals as the tooth enamel. You can choose to add other solutions such as milk, lemonade, tea/coffee for comparison.
  ● Copy the table below in their notebook to record any changes to the eggshells every day. Record any changes to the color and/or texture of the eggshells. If there is no change observed, write “no changes”.
  ● Note: Add more columns if more solutions are added to the ones mentioned already |
|                    | DAY | JAR WITH VINEGAR | JAR WITH WATER | JAR WITH ANY SOFT DRINK | JAR WITH VINEGAR AND AN EGG COATED WITH TOOTHPASTE |
|                    | 1   |                |                |                           |                                                      |
|                    | 2   |                |                |                           |                                                      |
|                    | 3   |                |                |                           |                                                      |
|                    | 4   |                |                |                           |                                                      |
|                    | 5   |                |                |                           |                                                      |
| **15 minutes**     | ● Numeracy activity:  
  - Let’s assume that the uncoated “tooth” in vinegar decays at a rate of 2% per hour, how many **days** it reaches 100% decay? (Hint: there are 24 hours in a day) |
- After learning that soda is bad for your teeth, Sami reduced his consumption of soda to 1/5th the previous amount. What fraction of the original amount does he now consume?

**DAY 3**

Today you will record experiment data on the healthy teeth observation table.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Suggested Duration</th>
<th>Activity and Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 10 minutes          | ● Show the healthy teeth checklist to your guardian/parent to make sure you have followed good oral hygiene habits on the previous day.  
  ● Also discuss whether you have faced any problems while following oral hygiene habits. |
| 20 minutes          | ● Look at all the eggshells in the four jars and record changes to eggshells in terms of color and texture on the tooth decay experiment table above.  
  Watch for the condition of the eggshell coated with toothpaste in the jar with vinegar very carefully as it is important to compare that with the condition of the uncoated eggshell in the vinegar jar. |
| 40 minutes          | ● Think about the importance a healthy smile and how it can positively impact others. Smile at strangers, neighbors, friends and family, and observe and record their reactions. Use your observations from this experiment to write an essay or a paragraph in response to the following prompt: “does smiling improve happiness?” |

**DAY 4**

Today you will learn about the types of teeth and their functions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Activity and Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 10 minutes          | ● Show the healthy teeth checklist to your guardian/parent to make sure you have followed good oral hygiene habits on the previous day.  
  ● Also discuss whether you have faced any problems while following oral hygiene habits. |
20 minutes

- Look at all the eggshells in the four jars and record changes to eggshells in terms of color and texture on the tooth decay experiment table above. Watch for the condition of the eggshell coated with toothpaste in the jar with vinegar very carefully as it is important to compare that with the condition of the uncoated eggshell in the vinegar jar.

40 minutes

- Learn about different types of teeth and their functions:
  - Examine your mouth and identify the different types of teeth you have and draw them in a smiling mouth
  - The chisel-shaped front teeth are called **incisors**; the sharper teeth on either side of incisors with one pointy tip (or cusp) are called **canines**; the teeth that come after canines and have two points or cusps are called **premolars**; the wider back teeth with four or five points/cusps are called **molars**.

Source: [https://www.smileinla.com/four-different-types-of-teeth-their-function/](https://www.smileinla.com/four-different-types-of-teeth-their-function/)

- Then think about the different roles different teeth play. Eat an apple or any other item and observe the process and the different roles teeth play
- Also look at the appendix for more details
- Create a table or list detailing the function of each tooth type in the process of eating

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**DAY 5**

Today you will learn about the types of teeth and their functions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Suggested Duration</th>
<th>Activity and Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20 minutes</td>
<td>Look at all the eggshells in the four jars and record changes to eggshells in terms of color and texture on the tooth decay experiment table above. Watch for the condition of the eggshell coated with toothpaste in the jar with vinegar very carefully as it is important to compare that with the condition of the uncoated eggshell in the vinegar jar.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40 minutes</td>
<td>Learn about different types of teeth and their functions: Examine your mouth and identify the different types of teeth you have and draw them in a smiling mouth. The chisel-shaped front teeth are called <strong>incisors</strong>; the sharper teeth on either side of incisors with one pointy tip (or cusp) are called <strong>canines</strong>; the teeth that come after canines and have two points or cusps are called <strong>premolars</strong>; the wider back teeth with four or five points/cusps are called <strong>molars</strong>. Then think about the different roles different teeth play. Eat an apple or any other item and observe the process and the different roles teeth play. Also look at the appendix for more details. Create a table or list detailing the function of each tooth type in the process of eating.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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10 minutes
- Show the healthy teeth checklist to your guardian/parent to make sure you have followed good oral hygiene habits on the previous day.
- Also discuss whether you have faced any problems while following oral hygiene habits.

20 minutes
- Look at all the eggshells in the four jars and record changes to eggshells in terms of color and texture on the tooth decay experiment table above. Watch for the condition of the eggshell coated with toothpaste in the jar with vinegar very carefully as it is important to compare that with the condition of the uncoated eggshell in the vinegar jar.

15 minutes
- Think about how animals use different teeth and how teeth functions differ depending on whether animals are herbivores (plant eaters), carnivores (meat eaters), or omnivores (plant and meat eaters).
- Consider the functions of some teeth in humans with animals.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Function</th>
<th>Human tooth</th>
<th>Animal tooth</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cut food (first bite)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tear through meat</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tear and grind food</td>
<td>e.g. premolars</td>
<td>e.g. tearing and chewing soft food (or toys in dogs)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crush and grind food</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

20 minutes
- Review healthy teeth observation table and discuss with a family member:
  - What percentage of the healthy practices listed has the learner followed each day?
  - Has the learner adopted more or less healthy practices as the days went by? Or is there no pattern? Why do you observe this?
  - How easy or difficult were the healthy teeth practices to follow, and why?

**DAY 6**

Today you will complete the experiment on tooth decay.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Suggested Duration</th>
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</table>

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40 minutes

- Remove the eggs from the jar and note down the final condition of each eggshell in the four jars in the tooth decay experiment table.
- What can you conclude from this experiment? How do coated and uncoated eggs compare? What can you say about the effect of different fluids on our teeth? Note down the observations and conclusions in your notebook.
- Write down in your notebook what he/she thinks caused the changes in the condition of the eggshells soaked in vinegar and soft drinks.
- Explanation:
  - Observe that the eggshells in vinegar and soft drink will be affected the most. There will be cracks and holes on the surface or the surface may be completely damaged. The eggshells in water and milk (if used) will remain unaffected. The eggshell coated with fluoride toothpaste will be less affected than the uncoated egg in the jar with vinegar. Eggshell soaked in coffee/tea (if used) will show brown/yellow stains.
  - If you are unable to understand, the guardian/supervisor can explain that the bacteria in our mouth convert sugary foods into acids. These acids dissolve the tooth enamel resulting in holes in the tooth which are called cavities. Vinegar contains acetic acid and soft drinks contain phosphoric acid which cause the damage to the eggshells. The egg coated with fluoride toothpaste is less affected as fluoride is good for preventing tooth decay.
  - You should be able to appreciate that even though the egg was coated with fluoride toothpaste, there was still some damage that was observed. Hence, we should avoid sugary drinks in addition to brushing teeth twice daily. The more sugar we consume, the more acid gets produced which leads to tooth decay. On the other hand, foods like carrots, apples and cucumbers have a cleansing effect on teeth and hence are good for teeth.

30 minutes

- Produce a creative flipbook, poster, or manual serving as the how-to guide for healthy teeth that must answer the following questions in one paragraph or more:
  - How many teeth do adults have? What are the different types of teeth adults have?
  - Why are teeth important from a health and social perspective?
  - What are three steps we can take to maintain healthy teeth?
  - What foods or habits must be limited or avoided to maintain healthy teeth?
- Share the guide with your family.

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ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

- Understanding parts of a tooth
- Successful completion of quiz
- Successful completion of daily checklist activities
- Understanding of good oral hygiene habits
- Understanding causes of tooth decay and how to prevent it

ADDITIONAL ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES

- The learner can take this short quiz to test his/her knowledge of tooth health. The guardian/supervisor can dictate the questions to the learner and the learner will have 20 minutes to answer 10 questions. The guardian/supervisor can use the answer key to check the answers (or the learner can do it themselves):
  - Healthy teeth quiz
  - Name two things you can do to avoid getting cavities
    - How many times in a day should you brush your teeth?
    - Name two foods that cause tooth cavities
    - Why do we use toothpaste to brush teeth?
    - How long should you brush your teeth?
    - What hard, tough substance covers the crown of the tooth?
    - Choose the correct answer
      - What part of the tooth does dentin protect?
        - Gum
        - Root
        - Pulp
        - Crown
      - What does pulp contain?
      - Which doctor checks our teeth?
      - How often should we see a tooth doctor?
  - Answer key
    - Brushing your teeth regularly and avoiding sugary food/drinks
    - Twice daily (in the morning and before going to bed)
    - Soft drinks, sugar candies
    - Fluoride in toothpaste helps prevent tooth cavities
    - You should spend 2-3 mins each time you brush
    - Enamel
    - Pulp
    - Pulp contains nerves and blood vessels
    - Dentists are doctors of teeth
    - At least once in a year

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• Share your results and what you have learned about maintaining healthy teeth with your family. You may also quiz them on healthy teeth using the quiz you just completed!

MODIFICATIONS FOR SIMPLIFICATION

• Learners can reduce the number of tasks and activities in this project and only conduct the main experiment with egg shells and track the healthy teeth habits of their family members.
## Types of human teeth

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position in mouth</th>
<th>Incisor</th>
<th>Canine</th>
<th>Premolar</th>
<th>Molar</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Front</td>
<td>![Incisor Image]</td>
<td>![Canine Image]</td>
<td>![Premolar Image]</td>
<td>![Molar Image]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Either side of incisors</td>
<td>Slightly more pointed than incisors</td>
<td>2 points (cusps), 1 or 2 roots</td>
<td>4 or 5 cusps 2 or 3 roots</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chisel-shaped (sharp edge)</td>
<td>Slightly more pointed than incisors</td>
<td>2 points (cusps), 1 or 2 roots</td>
<td>4 or 5 cusps 2 or 3 roots</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biting of pieces of food</td>
<td>Similar function to incisors</td>
<td>Tearing and grinding food</td>
<td>Chewing and grinding food</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>