

When should I bring my child to the dentist for the first time?

Dentists are routinely asked "When should I bring my child to the dentist for the first time?" The answer, according to the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry, "First visit by first birthday." Studies have shown that more than 1 in 4 children in the United States have cavities by the time they are 4 years old, sometimes as early as age 2. In order to prevent early childhood cavities, parents need to learn how to manage diet, hygiene and fluoride to prevent problems before they begin.

At the age 1 visit (or when the first tooth erupts) there should be discussions of:

Caring for the child's teeth, Use of fluoride and fluoride supplements, Oral Habits, Teething, and The effects of diet on oral health.

A child's first visit should include a tour of the office with a demonstration of toys and games present. Brief friendly descriptions of dental equipment to be used, a ride up and down in the dental chair and finally a positive reinforcement, via a "treasure chest."

For answers to "How do I prepare my child for this visit?" and other questions, please e-mail us at info@woodburyfamilydental.com

**118 River Road, Suite #14
Triangle Plaza, Harriman, NY
845-782-1800**

Please call us for a no-charge consultation.

