Welcome to CCEI116A

This course addresses the importance of early and consistent oral health care for young children from birth to age five. Participants will learn methods for promoting good oral health practices in the classroom as well as in the home.

✔ Course Objectives:

By taking notes on the handout and successfully answering assessment questions, participants will meet the following objectives as a result of taking this course:

- Identify the characteristics of tooth decay
- Identify the reasons that it is important to pay attention to oral health
- Recognize the connection between bacteria, sugar, and tooth decay
- List the causes of tooth decay and methods to prevent tooth decay
- Identify classroom and home strategies that support oral health

During this course, participants are expected to reflect and write about topics related to their own learning and teaching experiences in relation to course content.

References:

American Association of Pediatric Dentistry. 2017-18 Definitions Oral Health Policies, and Recommendations
http://www.aapd.org/policies/

https://www.cdc.gov/oralhealth/basics/childrens-oral-health/index.html


Tooth Tips for Tots. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=41wpZbxT7A4

American Association of Pediatric Dentistry FAQs.
http://www.aapd.org/resources/frequently_asked_questions/#311

American Dental Association. FAQs on Fluoride and Fluoridation of the Water Supply.

Oral Health

Define **tooth decay**:

By the age of 11, approximately ________ children have experienced tooth decay, and by age 17 that number rises as high as ____ percent of all children.

According to the CDC, which children are most likely to experience untreated tooth decay?
Define *dental caries*:

**The Benefits of Healthy Teeth**
Explain why good oral hygiene is important for a child's development:

**Baby Teeth**
Tooth decay in baby teeth is serious and may lead to:

**The Causes of Tooth Decay**
Define dental plaque:

**Bacteria + Sugar + Tooth = Decay**
Explain how sugar causes tooth decay:

Why is it important to check food labels?

Explain the phrase *how often is more important than how much* as it relates to tooth decay and sugar:

Why shouldn’t children drink soda?
**Water First**

Why should we limit children’s juice consumption?

What are the benefits of drinking water?

**Infant Feeding**

List 4 tips for promoting oral health in infants:

What about water and infants?

**Development of Permanent Teeth**

Development of primary teeth begins during the _____ month of pregnancy and is complete when the child is ______ old.

Tooth eruption is the term used to describe the appearance of primary teeth, also known as baby teeth. In general, primary tooth eruption occurs according to the following time frame:

Incisors erupt at about ________

__________________ erupt at one year

__________ erupt at about 16–20 months

Second molars erupt at ___ years

**Good Oral Hygiene Habits**

**Oral Hygiene for Infants**

Infants’ teeth should be cleaned:

Proper Brushing Technique:
It is important to:

What is **fluoride** and why is it important?

**Program Considerations**

Why is it important for families to be involved?

What are some strategies early care providers can use to help ensure that families understanding the importance of good oral hygiene?

**Try This!**

**Oral Hygiene Curriculum Components**

Here are some suggestions for advancing good oral hygiene habits in the early childhood environment:

- Set up a center with props for dental care, including tooth brushes for dolls
- Read age appropriate books on brushing teeth, healthy eating, and visiting the dentist
- Schedule field trips to a local dentist, or ask a local dentist or dental hygienist to stop in for a visit