## Oral Health Education in Children with Special Needs

Service Learning Project



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#### What we know as a dental care team!



#### **Barriers to CSHCN Population**

- limited resources
- lack of oral health care literacy
- physical and developmental disabilities
- sensory processing difficulties

#### What we want to know!



#### Questionnaire

- Do you have dental insurance?
- Have you scheduled a dental appointment for you and your child?
- Can your child perform basic oral hygiene?
- How much sugar does your child consume a day?

#### **Results**

- 4-Point Scale
- 75% of the families and children are at Moderate to High Risk of oral and dental disease.

## Let's play the "Name Game"!



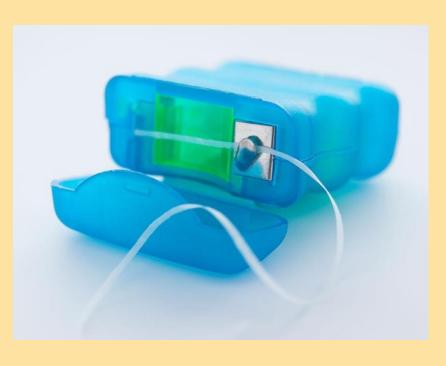


#### Let's play the "Name Game"!



toothpaste!

## Let's play the "Name Game"!







We use these items to brush and clean our teeth!

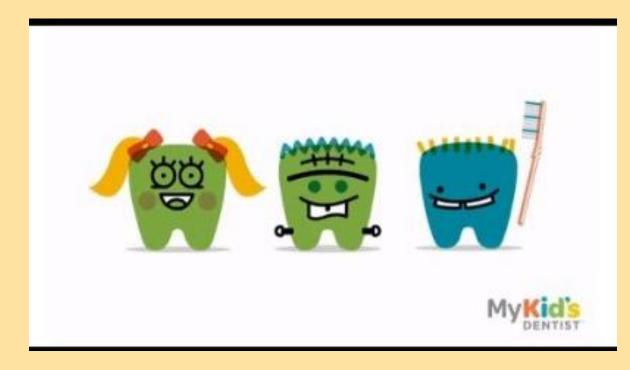
#### BUT ... why?

why do we need to brush and clean our teeth?



#### Why do we need to brush our teeth?

- to remove sticky plaque FILLED with yucky germs
- prevent those
   yucky germs from
   creating tiny holes
   in our teeth called
   cavities



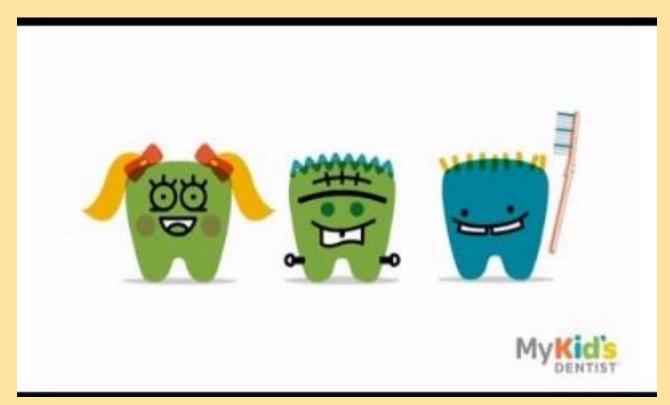
#### **Now let's meet Rex!**

Rex is a friendly alligator that **loves** to **have his teeth brushed**!

And Rex is gonna help us show you how to do it and love it, too!



#### How do we brush and floss our teeth?



## brushing

- put a pea-sized amount of toothpaste on your toothbrush
- start with your **back teeth** coming forward and brush in little circles
- don't swallow the toothpaste!

## flossing

- have a parent help you!
- wrap the floss around your pointer fingers
- guide it gently between your teeth back and forth until you reach the gums

## **Cavities**

**Cavity** Breakdown of tooth structure

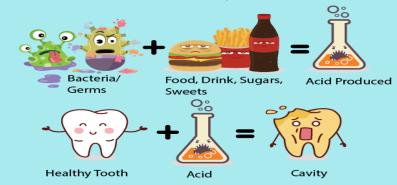
How a cavity **Forms** Bacteria that sits in our mouth from the sugar and carbohydrates we eat forms ACID

**ACID** eats away the outer layer of the tooth called enamel

#### **Good Foods**



#### **Dental Decay Process**



#### **Bad Foods**



#### **How to Prevent Cavities**



**Brush** your teeth with a **pea** size amount of toothpaste for **2** minutes Morning + Night

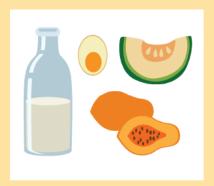
**Floss** at least 1x daily

Drink **water** throughout the day & make healthy food choices

**Visit** the Dentist every **6 Months** 















# Let's put together what we have learned!

#### **Story Time with Rex!**

It's 7 o'clock in the morning and Rex is ready to start his day. Should Rex first **brush his teeth** or **go have breakfast**?



Now that Rex has brushed his teeth

it's time for breakfast! Should Rex
have healthy apple or a sugary





## **Story Time with Rex!**

Before Rex gets going to school, what should he pack for lunch -- a hamburger and french fries or some yummy fruits and veggies?

At lunchtime, Rex realizes he forgot to bring a drink! Should Rex ask for a **water** or for a **soda**?





## **Story Time with Rex!**

Rex gets home from school and is having dinner with his family. What can he have for dessert, **ice cream** or **sugar-free jello**?



It's the end of the day and Rex is getting ready for bed. Should Rex go straight to bed or brush and floss his teeth?



## **Surprise!**















## any questions?

