



help tip: The Dental Home

Having a "Dental Home" helps produce and maintain a healthy smile

Families are encouraged to build a relationship with their dental office so they have a great a "Dental Home" – an environment that encourages members of the family to have regular dental checkups.

Benefits of establishing a Dental Home:

- Patients become familiar with the dentist, their staff and the office
- Promotes early and regular access to preventive and routine dental services
- Increases continuity of care, prevention, dental and overall health
- Decreases duplication of dental services caused by seeking dental care from multiple dental offices

The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), the American Dental Association (ADA), and the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry (AAPD) all recommend establishing a "Dental Home" for your child by one year of age. Children who have a dental home are more likely to receive appropriate preventive and routine care. A well-established Dental Home also includes appropriate referrals to dental specialists.

With the rising incidence of tooth decay among young children, having a Dental Home can be essential in promoting preventive care. In addition to implementing lifelong oral health at home, establishing and maintaining an ongoing relationship between the dentist and the patient is imperative. The Dental Home is an open door to of all aspects of oral health care delivered in a comprehensive, continuously accessible, coordinated, and family-centered way.

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fact:

Children learn

Oral Health from

their parents