

Objective: Students learn how to take care of their teeth.

You Will Need:

- Construction paper (cut into paper ovals for each student). Copy a tooth pattern and fold ovals in half to create open and closed “mouths”
- Scissors
- Miniature marshmallows
- Glue
- Toothbrushes
- Dental floss

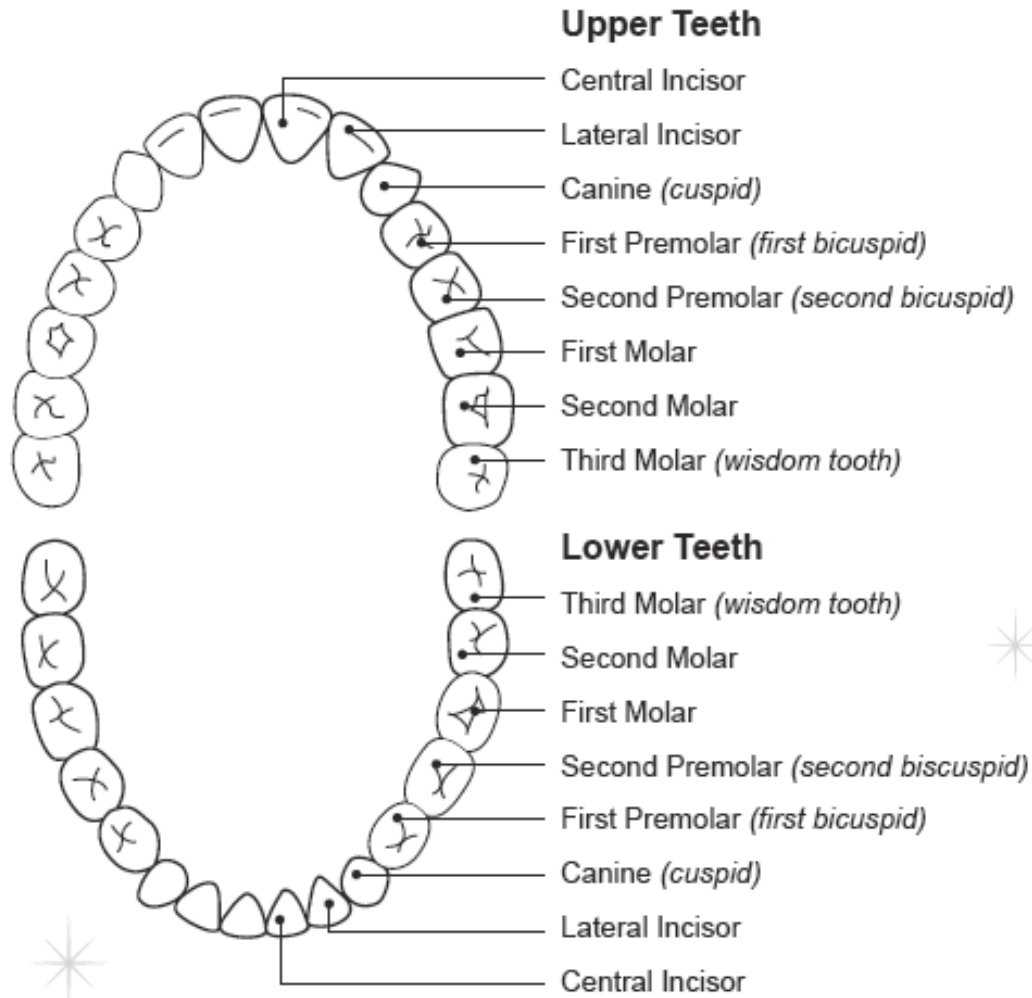


Procedure:

- 1) Explain that you will be studying teeth today and the different jobs teeth have when it comes to eating.
- 2) Provide each student with a “mouth”, glue, teeth pattern, toothbrush, floss and twenty marshmallows.
- 3) Have students cut and glue the teeth pattern inside the open mouth construction paper.
- 4) Ask the students to glue a marshmallow on top of each tooth in the pattern and fold the construction paper to create a mouthful of teeth.
- 5) Allow models to dry.
- 6) Discuss proper tooth care.
- 7) Have students practice brushing and flossing the “teeth” on the models (see image above).
- 8) Ask each group to think of three things that teeth do.
 - a. For example: Teeth are important for speaking, eating and smiling.
 - b. What is the proper way to brush your teeth?
 - c. What is the proper way to floss your teeth?
 - d. Why is it important to brush and floss your teeth after every meal?
- 9) Have students look at the ‘Teeth Chart’ and identify the different teeth they observed on their sheets.
- 10) Have students write down all their observations and compare their experiment to the teeth chart.

Teeth are used to cut and grind food into small pieces. Young children start with a set of 20 baby teeth. These are replaced by 32 permanent teeth by adulthood. Refer to the Tooth Chart. Brushing every day prevents tooth decay.

TOOTH CHART



Directions: Color the teeth that you have in your mouth now.

When did I or will I get these teeth?

Tooth	Primary Dentition	Permanent Dentition
Central Incisor	6-12 months	6-8 years
Lateral Incisor	9-16 months	7-9 years
Canine/Cuspid	6-23 months	9-12 years
First Premolar	-	10-12 years
Second Premolar	-	10-12 years
First Molar	12-19 months	6-7 years
Second Molar	23-33 months	11-13 years
Third Molar/ Wisdom Tooth	-	17-25 years