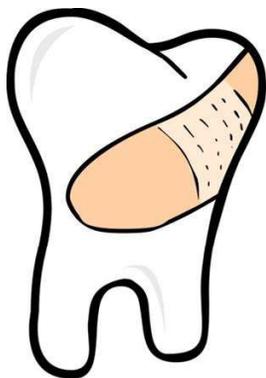


# MOUTH AND DENTAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE

**Objective:** To learn what to do if an oral emergency occurs.



## You Will Need:

- A copy of the ***Dental First Aid*** printout for reference.

## Procedure:

- 1) Discuss each scenario with the class. Alternatively, divide the class into small groups to answer the questions. Students may choose to report or be creative with role-playing the scenario.
- 2) Decide what should be done in each situation to prevent an injury to the mouth or teeth, or to repair damage.
- 3) Refer to the “Dental First Aid” page.

## Scenarios:

- Your best friend got a football for a birthday present. You are playing tackle football, and you bite your tongue as you are tackled to the ground.  
What should you do?
- Your friend fell off his skateboard and knocked out a permanent tooth.  
What should you do?
- You are playing tag with your friends during recess at school. Your friend accidentally gets hit by a swing and chipped one of his permanent front teeth. What should be done?  
What should you do?
- You fell on the pavement and your top teeth cut through your bottom lip. Your teeth are not injured, but your lip is bleeding.  
What should you do?

► **Curriculum Objectives (Grade 3):** 1.6 describe behaviors and procedures that contribute to personal safety.

► **Curriculum Objectives (Grade 4):** 1.6 Evaluate ways of minimizing risks in potentially dangerous situations.

# DENTAL FIRST AID

## **FOLLOWING A HEAD OR MOUTH INJURY...**

- 1) Calm the injured person.
- 2) Determine the type of injury.  
If the injury is serious, contact the parent and arrange to take the child to the emergency room.
- 3) Check for a knocked out tooth (see "KNOCKED-OUT PERMANENT TOOTH" below)

### **Serious Injury?**

Contact the parent and arrange to take the child to the emergency room.

### **Knocked out tooth?**

Find the tooth and refer below for instructions.

### **Minor bleeding?**

Apply direct pressure with sterile gauze or a clean cloth.

### **Bleeding that does not stop within ten minutes?**

Contact the parents and arrange for the child to go to the emergency room.

### **Profuse Bleeding?**

Contact the parent and arrange for emergency services by an emergency squad or emergency room.

## **KNOCKED-OUT PERMANENT TOOTH...**

- 1) Find the tooth, but do not handle it by the roots.
- 2) Rinse the tooth gently if dirty. Do not scrub the tooth.
- 3) Place the tooth back in the socket gently.
- 4) Instruct the child to hold the tooth with a finger or tissue (or see below).
- 5) Keep the tooth moist (see below).
- 6) Contact the parent and arrange to take the child to the dentist immediately.

### **Child having trouble holding tooth or tooth is not easily replaced?**

Place the tooth in a cheek pocket. If not able to do this, place in a glass of water (last resort).

## **LOOSENED OR CHIPPED TOOTH...**

- 1) Clean the area with warm water.
- 2) Avoid moving the tooth.
- 3) Apply a cold compress to the face to minimize swelling.
- 4) Contact the parent and arrange to take the child to the dentist immediately.

## **TOOTH PUSHED INTO THE GUMS...**

- 1) Wash the area with warm water.
- 2) Contact the parent and arrange to take the child to the dentist immediately.  
**Do Not Attempt to Move Tooth into Correct Position.**

## **TOOTHACHE...**

- 1) Contact the parent.
- 2) Suggest the child goes to the dentist as soon as possible.  
**Do Not Place Aspirin on the Gum Tissue (will burn tissue).**

## **INJURY TO LIPS, TONGUE AND/OR CHEEK...**

- 1) Rinse the affected area with warm water.
- 2) Place a cold compress over the area to minimize swelling.

### **Is the injury due to a fall or is a tooth chipped?**

Contact the parent to take the child to the dentist immediately.

## **BROKEN OR DISLOCATED JAW**

- 1) Immobilize the jaw by placing a scarf, necktie, or towel under the chin and tying the ends on top of the head.
- 2) Contact the parents and arrange to take the child to an emergency room for an examination immediately.