

Oral Health *facts*



Getting Dental Care for Your Child

Your child needs healthy teeth to eat, talk and smile!

Don't wait to visit the dentist until your child says their teeth hurt.

How to make a dental appointment:

If your child has Healthy Start or your family has Healthy Families, dental services will be provided at no cost.

If you don't have dental insurance and have a limited income, you may qualify for Ohio's Medicaid program. Applications are available at <http://benefits.ohio.gov> or by calling the Medicaid Consumer Hotline at **1-800-324-8680**.

Regular dental visits may include examinations, x-rays, cleanings, fluoride treatments, dental sealants and fillings. All of these are important to keep your child's teeth healthy.

Now that you have an appointment:

Keep the dentist's name, address and phone number handy.

If you need a ride, make the arrangements now.

- Your county Department of Job and Family Services may be able to help you find a ride. If you can, arrange for a babysitter for the other children.

Be sure to keep the appointment.

- If you must change to a different day or time, call the dentist's office as soon as possible.
- Arrive on time. Valuable time has been set aside for your child.

Prepare your child for the appointment.

- Talk to your child about the dental visit in a positive way. It will make it more enjoyable.
- The office staff will explain what they are doing, and this will help prepare your child to be a good dental patient.