



Parent Guidelines

Dear Parents,

Our aim is to provide children with a pleasant and supportive dental experience that will allow them to maintain a positive outlook on dental care for their entire lives. Please consider these guidelines as a critical component of our goal.

Parents may choose whether or not to accompany a child to the treatment room during his or her dental care. Although children often behave better without parents present, we are open to having you present when your child is being treated.

If you choose to be present, we ask that you follow these guidelines to improve the chances of a positive experience and outcome:

- 1. Allow us to prepare your child's room prior to entering the room.**
- 2. Be supportive of the practices' pediatric terminology.**
 - a. Please review the attached terminology form prior to your visit.**
- 3. Please be a silent observer.**
 - a. This allows us to maintain communication with your child.**
 - b. Children often listen to their parents instead of us and may not hear our guidance.**
 - c. A parent may give incorrect or misleading information.**
- 4. If asked to leave the room, please be ready to walk away.**
 - a. Children will sometimes try to control a situation and leaving can reestablish our communication with him or her.**
 - b. "Acting out" is normal but unacceptable during dental treatment.**
 - c. We will continue to positively support your child at all times.**

These are important ways that a parent can actively help in the success of a child's visit and they play a necessary role in helping us provide today's children with a pleasant and non-intimidating experience that past generations did not receive. We are confident that a child's treatment will be a success and we hope these guidelines will help you gain confidence for the upcoming appointment. Thank you for your support.

Practice Terminology

In order to improve the chances of your child having a positive experience in our office, we are selective in our use of words. We try to avoid words that scare children due to previous experiences or words learned from siblings or friends. Please support us by NOT using negative or frightening words that are often used for dental care. These include:

DO NOT USE

Needle or Shot

Drill

Drill on Tooth

Pull or Yank

Decay or Cavity

Exam or Examination

Use an Explorer or Scraper

Suction

Rubber Dam

PLEASE USE

Sleepy Juice

Mr. Whistle

Spray out Sugar Bugs

Wiggle

Sugar Bugs

Count Teeth

Give Tooth a Backscratch

Mr. Slurpy

Rain Coat

These are seemingly silly yet very effective terms that are proven to alleviate fear during treatment. We ask that you strictly refrain from any terms outside of these positive descriptors. Thank you.