

EARLY CHILDHOOD CARIES PROGRESSION



Happy Teeth!

Working as a team: the caregiver, the assistant, and the dental provider can keep a child's teeth healthy. Toothbrushing, fluoride, and proper diet—all contribute to healthy teeth. "Lift-the-Lip" in order to properly brush harmful plaque around the gumline.



White Spot Lesions

This enamel has begun to become soft. With proper tooth cleaning and fluoride applications, this process can be reversed. Does the child engage in continuous snacking? Is the caregiver appropriately supervising oral hygiene habits? Application of a fluoride varnish will aid to reverse this problem.



Early Caries

A dental visit is needed to begin to restore these lesions. Monitor the child's diet and emphasize brushing with a fluoridated toothpaste.



Severe Caries

If you see this, your child needs a dental visit as soon as possible. Monitor the inside of the lip or way above the gumline for evidence of abscess.