

ORAL HEALTH EDUCATION GUIDELINES FOR CLASSROOM TEACHERS

CATEGORY	BASIC (Essential Oral Health Needs)	ADVANCED (More healthful than BASIC)	EXEMPLARY (More healthful than ADVANCED)
Pre-Kindergarten	<p>Incorporate these topics into the curriculum:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Purpose of teeth • Proper toothbrushing techniques • Importance of using fluoridated toothpaste • Which foods combine with bacteria to cause decay.\ Effects of soft drinks on teeth 	<p>Incorporate this topic into the curriculum:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How fluoride protects teeth • How to brush teeth using “modified toothbrushing protocol” <p>Ensure daily toothbrushing using “modified toothbrushing protocol”</p>	<p>Use “disclosing tablets” to demonstrate plaque</p> <p>Establish a dental office in play area</p>
Primary	<p>Incorporate these topics into the curriculum:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Purpose of teeth • Purpose of healthy teeth • Names of permanent teeth • Proper toothbrushing and flossing techniques • Importance of using fluoridated toothpaste and rinse • Names of • “teeth healthy” foods • Effect of sugar-laden foods and beverages 	<p>Incorporate this topic into the curriculum:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How fluoride protects teeth <p>Integrate oral health education into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading • Vocabulary 	<p>Integrate oral health education into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading • Vocabulary • Science • Creative arts

<p>Elementary</p>	<p>Incorporate these topics into the curriculum:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Names of teeth and purpose of teeth • Proper toothbrushing and flossing techniques • Purpose of sealants • Purpose of braces • Effects of tobacco/drugs on teeth • Effects of soft drinks and sports drinks on teeth 	<p>Organize a class oral health fair</p> <p>Include dental professions in studies of careers</p>	<p>Organize a class oral health fair, featuring each element of the school curriculum, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creative writing • Reading • Math • Science • Social studies
<p>MIDDLE SCHOOL</p>	<p>Incorporate these topics into the curriculum:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Care of permanent teeth and braces • Effects of tobacco and spit tobacco on teeth and mouth • Effects of methamphetamine on teeth • Effects of oral piercing on teeth, gums, oral cavity, and infections • Effects of soft drinks, sports drinks, sugar and starches on teeth 	<p>Incorporate these topics into the curriculum:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Role of oral health on overall health • Contributions of oral disease on other disease of the body <p>Organize a class oral health science project</p>	<p>Create opportunities for students to teach oral health in Pre-K and primary classrooms</p> <p>Create opportunities for students to shadow dental professionals</p>
<p>HIGH SCHOOL</p>	<p>Incorporate these topics into the curriculum:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Care of permanent teeth and braces • Effects of tobacco and spit tobacco on teeth and mouth • Effects of methamphetamine on teeth • Effects of oral piercing on teeth, gums, oral cavity, and infections • Effects of soft drinks, sports drinks, sugar and starches on teeth 	<p>Incorporate oral health content as selections for science projects</p> <p>Use oral health content as examples in chemistry and biology classes</p>	<p>Create opportunities for students to teach oral health in Pre-K and primary classrooms</p> <p>Create opportunities for students to work in dental offices</p>