

## DENTAL CARE PROTOCOL

<b>Category:</b> Health Services	<b>Regulations:</b> HS Performance Standards 1302.40: 1302.43: 1302.47
	<b>Activity/Steps:</b>
<b>1. Tooth Brushes:</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Each child shall have his/her own toothbrush, clearly identified with their name.</li><li>2. Sharing or borrowing of toothbrushes will not occur.</li><li>3. Toothbrushes will be replaced at least <b>at the end of every week.</b></li><li>4. If a toothbrush is contaminated through contact with another child's toothbrush or some other means, or if the toothbrush becomes frayed, the toothbrush will be replaced.</li></ol>
<b>2. Tooth Brush Storage:</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. After use, each toothbrush will be rinsed in running water by staff.</li><li>2. Toothbrush will be stored open to air with bristles up in toothbrush holders.</li><li>3. Toothbrushes cannot touch or drip on each other.</li><li>4. <b>Toothbrushes will be store in toothbrush holder uncovered.</b></li><li>5. Staff with <b>NOT</b> use the toothbrush sanitizer.</li></ol>
<b>3. Tooth Brushing Schedule:</b>	<p><b>Daily Tooth brushing shall occur at least once a day. It is preferred at the end of the first meal but if classroom finds a different time that works better than it will be allowed. This must added into the classroom lesson plan and part of the daily routine.</b></p> <p><b>Children MUST swish and swallow after every meal where toothbrushing does not occur.</b></p>

<p><b>4. Tooth Brushing Procedure at the Table:</b> Children over 2 years of age are encouraged to brush with a pea-size toothpaste smear for 1 minute for optimum plaque removal.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. After children have finished eating, cleared their items, washed their hands and gone to designated activities, staff will clean and sanitize the tables <b>while children are not at the tables, or still eating.</b></li> <li>2. Staff will wash their hands and for each child place on the table: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 paper towels, 1 small cup (1/2 filled with water), a smear (about a pea size) of fluoride toothpaste on the cup rim.</li> </ul> </li> <li>3. Once this is done, call the children to the tables.</li> <li>4. <b>One</b> staff member hand out the children's toothbrushes by placing them on the paper towel in front of the child. Instruct the children to <b>not</b> pick up the toothbrush yet. (Once children can identify their own name, this step can occur when placing paper towels and cups on the table prior to children coming to table). <b>This is where the red tray can be used for easier handling.</b></li> <li>5. <b>One</b> staff member will role model how to apply the tooth paste on the toothbrush from the cup and children follow.</li> <li>6. <b>One</b> staff member model and monitor children's tooth brushing for about 2 minute ensuring that all areas of the teeth, tongue and gum are brushed, using short circular motions and back and forth on the chewing surface.</li> <li>7. Spit out into cup. No rinsing is needed.</li> <li>8. Use paper towel to wipe mouth.</li> <li>9. Instruct the children to place the toothbrush on the 2nd paper towel.</li> <li>10. Children are released to throw away their cup, wash there hands and then to go to next activity.</li> <li>11. <b>One</b> staff member rinse and store away the toothbrushes.</li> </ol>
<p><b>5. Children 1 to 2 years of age:</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Staff (or parents at EHS socializations) will begin to brush child's teeth with a smear of fluoridated toothpaste following the procedures above. May use less water to swish and swallow.</li> <li>2. An infant or toddler toothbrush will be used, whatever is appropriate for the individual child.</li> </ol>
<p><b>6. Infant Oral Hygiene:</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. After an infant gets their first tooth, staff (or parents at EHS socializations) will brush the tooth/teeth with a smear of fluoridated toothpaste. No water is necessary.</li> <li>2. An infant toothbrush will be used.</li> </ol>

**7. Swish & Swallow:**

1. Children will "swish and swallow only" for all other meals and snacks, **including food activities.**
2. As children finish their meal or snack, staff will bring small cups (1/2 filled with water) on a tray and give to each child. (This will prevent children from filling up with water prior to sampling all the USDA food components.)
3. **One staff member will complete swish and swallow with children to role model.**
4. Staff will remind children about the benefits of swish and swallow. Each child and staff will swish and swallow when they are individually done eating.
5. Children will clear their items, wash their hands and proceed to the next designated activity on an individual basis.

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