

SMILES UNLIMITED

PARENT GUIDELINES FOR DENTAL VISITS

Dear Parents:

You may choose whether or not to accompany your child in the operatory at his/her dental appointment. Although we sense that some children do better without parents present, we are open to having you with your child. If you choose to be present, we suggest the following guidelines to improve chances of a positive outcome:

1. Allow us to prepare your child
2. Be supportive of the practice's terminology.
3. Please be a ***silent observer*** – support your child with touches.
 - A. This allows us to maintain communication with your child
 - B. Children will normally listen to their parents instead of us and may not hear our guidance.
 - C. You might give incorrect or misleading information.
4. If asked to leave, be ready to immediately walk away.
 - A. Many children will try to control the situation.
 - B. "Acting out" is normal, but unacceptable during restorative procedures.
 - C. This is intended to "short circuit" the control attempt.
 - D. We will continue to support your child at all times.

*preparing your child prior to his/her **restorative** dental appointment.

- Children are very perceptive and will pick up on a parent's anxiety. If you have anxiety towards dental treatments, we suggest sending your child with a spouse or grandparent.
- Don't discuss the upcoming procedures with siblings.
- Bring a favorite DVD or CD for your child to watch/listen.

We use the following words during dental procedures:

Sleepy juice

Mr. Thirsty

These are very important ways that you can actively help in the success of your child's visit. We are confident that all will go well and hope these guidelines will help prepare you with confidence for the upcoming appointment.

My signature below acknowledges that I have read and understand the above and consent to

treatment on my child, _____.

Child's name

Parent or Legal Guardian

Date